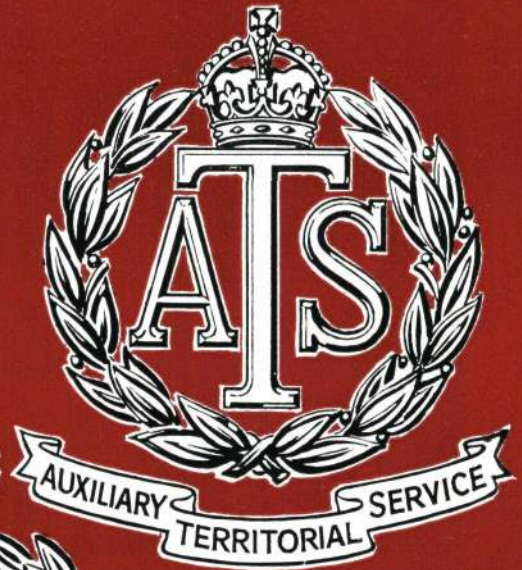


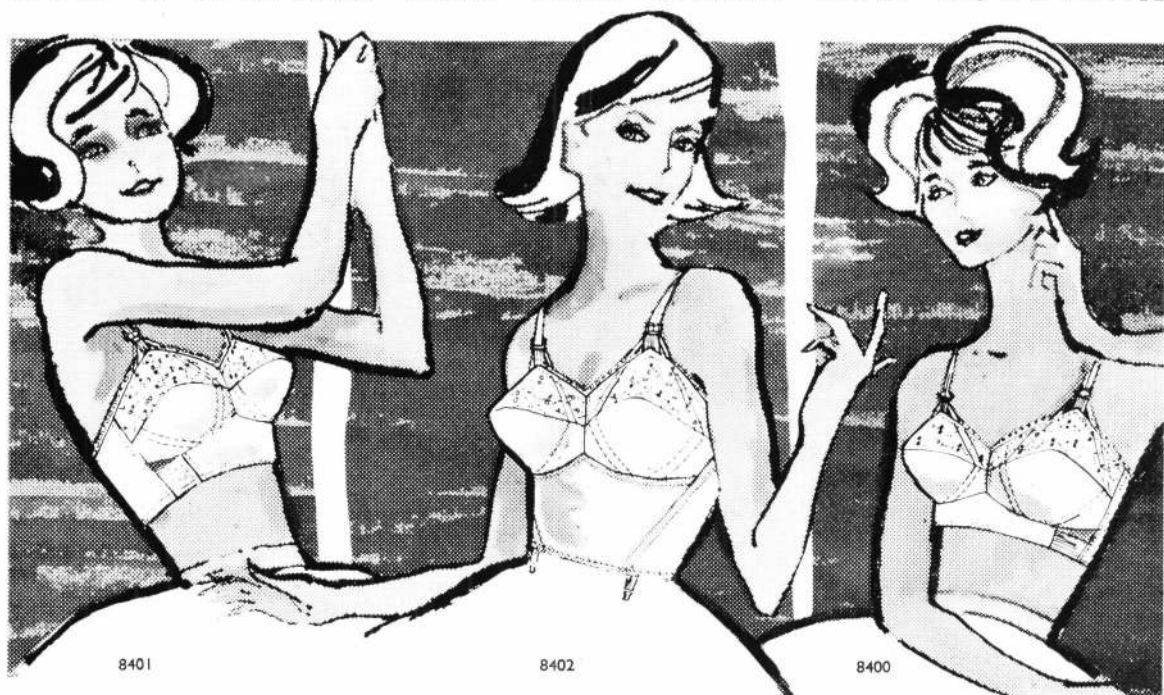
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THE LIONESS

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W.R.A.C. ASSOCIATION ADDRESS BOOK

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

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**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT ISSUE BY
DECEMBER 31**



CHRISTMAS FARE & TOYS

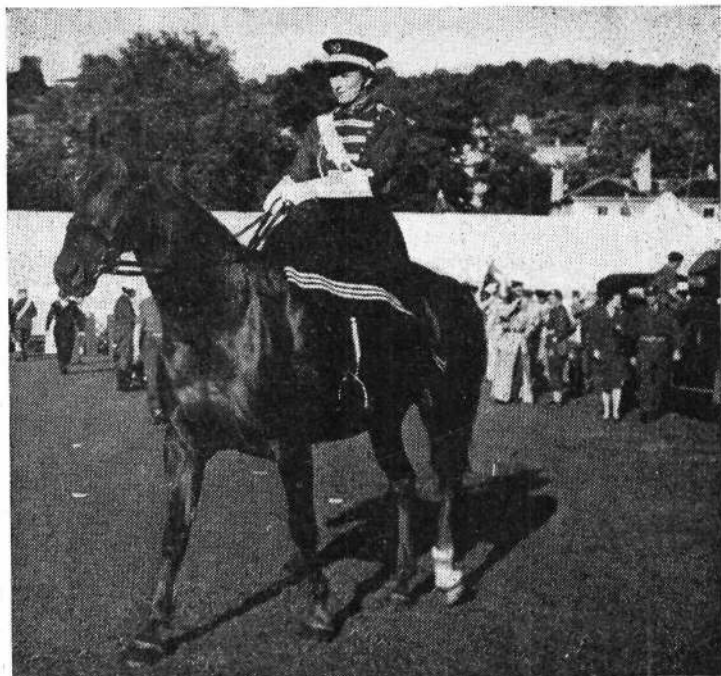


To make sure that this Christmas is a joyful one, visit your Naafi shop as soon as possible and see the wide selection of choicest Christmas fare. Wherever you may be Naafi can also supply toys, gifts and all your Christmas needs—but be in good time. Please place your order early.

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Left

**Major P. E. Gordon-Thompson,
W.R.A.C. (T.A.), as F.A.N.Y.
1909, mounted on His Grace the
Duke of Beaufort's "Sir Ronald."**

*Photo: By kind permission
Photo Prints (Bristol) Ltd.*

Right

**Major D. Stroud, W.R.A.C.,
photographed at The Queen's
Birthday Parade, Aldershot,
1959.**





THE LIONESS

Vol. XXXII

November 1959

No. 3

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

H.R.H. The Princess Royal

For the W.R.A.C. 1959 has been a year of growth, and 1960 promises to be a year of opportunity. The Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S., remembering the days of their own greatness, share in the sense of hope and achievement. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous year. MARY

EDITORIAL

MANY a harsh thought must have been turned towards *The Lioness* as August went by without a summer number. Her unprecedented crime of Absence Without Leave can only be excused by the strike which closed the printing works. She creeps back into circulation looking as red as the Lion of Scotland but with her noble tail between her legs, hardly daring to meet the eye of those injured subscribers who have paid for four journals and have only been given three.

ANXIOUS to find out just how far we have failed to give value for money in 1959, we made a few calculations and arrived at a surprising result. We compared the income of *The Lioness*, with the cost of printing a normal issue, less the advertising revenue which it earns. We found that our share of the annual and four-yearly subscriptions fails to cover even three issues of *The Lioness*, and the fourth is always a free gift to our subscribers. Our tail flew back into the rampant position as we realised that even in 1959 our readers have been given a few more pages than they paid for.

UNFORTUNATELY this comforting argument merely leads us back to a well-worn point—our income is too small to cover all we want to do. Under Major Coven's good management we have almost reached the stage where more advertisements would seriously increase the cost of printing and postage, and like every other paper, we now have to depend for a bigger circulation. Unless more people can be persuaded to read *The Lioness*, and order it and pay for it, we shall go on running at a loss, financed from the hard-pressed funds of the Association.

PARTLY in the hope of enlarging our circle of readers, and partly as a compensation for the lack of an August number, we publish in this issue a Special Supplement which we ask every subscriber to tear out and send on to an ex-service acquaintance who is not a member of the Association. If everyone will help in this way, and even

half the enrolment-coupons come back with a six-shilling postal order, the strength of the Association will go up by 50% and the finances of *The Lioness* will be in a much less precarious position.

THE printers' strike has thrown out our calculations in more ways than one. We saw *ourselves* retiring from the Army when the moment came with twenty years' full-time service and twenty *Lionesses* to our credit. Now, while the decades of service moved inexorably to their appointed end, *The Lioness* score has reached only nineteen—an untidy state in which to abandon the litter. We are dealing with this situation in our usual masterly fashion, by continuing to sit firmly in the Editorial chair, appointing a new Assistant Editor in the vacancy created by the resignation of Lady Margaret Sandeman-Allen, and redistributing the duties in a fair and practical manner. Henceforward the Assistant Editor will do the work and take the responsibility for any shortcomings, while the Editor collects the perquisites of office and assimilates any crumbs of credit which may come her way. The new system will be working by the time this issue appears, and we shall be grateful if all future contributions and correspondence may be sent to the Assistant Editor, Major B. Paget Clarke, W.R.A.C., H.Q. Eastern Command, Hounslow.

RETIREMENT must always be a sad business, but it does bring home afresh, in a very poignant and personal way, the value of the Association as a link between the serving and the "ex." Our campaign to bring in more ex-service members is not based entirely on our mercenary interests, but on the firm belief that those who make a final break when they leave the Active List are missing half the benefits of service life. Within the Association there is no line drawn between the past and the present, and therefore as long as the Association lives, no one need ever say good-bye. Instead we can end with our usual hopeful toast—New glory to the Corps, Long life to the Association, and a Happy Christmas to us all.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on Saturday, March 12, 1960, at 3 p.m. after which there will be a Reunion Tea-party. Tea Tickets 2/6.

In order that resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting may be printed in the February issue of *The Lioness*, they should reach the General Secretary by December 30, 1959.

BRANCH SECRETARIES' MEETING

The **Secretaries' Meeting** will be at the usual time, 11.30 a.m., after which members of Council will look forward to meeting all those who are able to come to lunch at 1 o'clock.

Q.M.A.A.C. REUNION

The **Q.M.A.A.C. Reunion** will be held in the H.Q. Club Canteen on Friday, March 11, 1960, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets, 4s., may be obtained from the Reunion Secretary, Duke of York's H.Q., Chelsea, S.W.3. When applying, please enclose stamped addressed envelope for reply.

SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL

By kind invitation of the Governor, Members of the Association may attend the morning service at 11 o'clock in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital on Sunday, March 13. Owing to limited accommodation attendance must be by ticket. Applications for tickets must reach the General Secretary by March 1.

W.R.A.C. ASSOCIATION DRAW

MEMBERS will be delighted to hear of the success of the Association draw, which exceeded all our expectations. Thanks and congratulations are due to all who sold the tickets. Everyone, branch members, H.Q. area members, serving and T.A. personnel, must have made very great efforts to sell as many tickets as they did—approximately 19,500.

The winning tickets were as follow: First, No. 8817, F. Driscoll, 21 Llanbradach Street, Cardiff. Second, No. 11622, Miss J. French, 53 Madeley Road, London, W.5. Third, C.S.M. Cocklin, R.A.S.C., 70 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.), Beavers Lane Camp, Hounslow, Middlesex.

The Unit branch selling the highest number of tickets was 12th Battalion, W.R.A.C., selling 208 books (1,040 tickets), £26. The ex-service branch selling the highest number was Birmingham, selling 92 books (460 tickets), £11 10s.

BALANCE SHEET OF DRAW

RECEIPTS				£	s.	d.
Sale of tickets	..	..	..	470	1	0

£470 1 0

EXPENDITURE				£	s.	d.
Chelsea Borough Council	..	..	..	1	0	0
Postage	..	..	..	6	6	7
Printing	..	..	..	15	18	0
Prizes	..	..	..	35	0	0
Distribution to Branches	..	..	..	31	5	6
Balance in hand	..	..	..	380	10	11

£470 1 0

RETIREMENT

COL. S. M. CRAWLEY retired from active service in September.

She joined the A.T.S. in 1938 and has had an interesting and varied career. In 1947 she became officer in charge of A.T.S. Records, an appointment never previously held by a woman, and in 1956 she returned for the second time to the War Office as A.A.G. A.G.16. Everyone will remember her as an active and most enthusiastic President of the Netball Association, an appointment she held for over six years, and last, but by no means least, for the very great work she does as Editor of this Magazine. It is a great joy to us all, particularly the Assistant Editor, that she has agreed to continue as our Editor. We shall all miss her very much indeed. Many of us will have listened with pleasure and pride to her recent broadcast, and although we are sad that it was on such a subject—as always, she talked with the usual brilliant and witty eloquence we have enjoyed on so many other occasions.

We wish her every success and good fortune in the future.

HAVE YOU READ?

Service in the Army—Price 2/6 (3/- with postage)

The Junior Leaders —Price 1/- (1/3 with postage) and other Addresses

both by Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan

News of Old Comrades

Mrs. J. V. Sperry (Carol Sinclair, W.A.A.C.) sends us greetings from California. She is delighted to report that as a result of her last letter to us being published she has heard from many old comrades.

Ex-Senior Commander Daphne Mullholland, now Lady Ward, is living in Buenos Aires, where her husband is the British Ambassador.

Ex-Chief Commander Betty Harvie-Anderson retains her seat as Conservative M.P. for Renfrewshire East.

Ex-Junior Commander Gillian Warr (née Dearmer) has moved to Brussels, where her husband has been appointed Counsellor.

Miss Sutton (Q.M.A.A.C.) writes from New Zealand that she sees Miss Moncton (A. A. Rouen), also Violet Bell (N. C. O. Rouen). She also is delighted to report that the New Zealand R.S.A. (similar to our British Legion) has made our 1914-18 members Honorary Life Members of their organisation.

We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to good health to Miss Douche, Miss Dawson-Smith, Mrs. G. A. Jones, Miss D. M. Johnson and Miss Adeline Bourne.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Olive K. King, ex-W.A.A.C., who has collected so much of this news of old comrades.

CRI DE COEUR

(Voiced by the Leicester Branch in the name of all Secretaries)

If a secretary writes a letter, it is too long,
If she sends a postcard, it's too short.
If she issues a bulletin, she's a spendthrift.
If she attends a committee meeting, she's butting in.
If she stays away, she's a shirker.
If she offers a suggestion, she's a "Know-all,"
If she says nothing, she's useless.
If the attendance at the meeting is slack, she should have called the members up.
If she calls them up, she's a pest.
If she asks a member for her sub., she's insulting.
If she doesn't, she is lazy.
If the meeting is a big success, the committee gets the praise.
If it's a failure, the secretary is to blame.
If she asks for advice, she is incompetent,
If she does not, she's swollen-headed.
Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,
If the others won't do it,
The secretary must.

MEDICAL SERVICES AND W.R.A.C. RECORDS

In September, Colonel P. T. L. Day, O.B.E., Officer i/c Medical Services and W.R.A.C. Records was posted to Home Counties District; we send him our thanks for the great interest he showed in our Corps and good wishes for his new appointment. News has just come in that the Colonel is in hospital, we all wish him a very speedy recovery.

We would like also to welcome his successor Colonel J. H. J. Crosse, O.B.E.



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BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

NEWS from the BRANCHES

BATH. A well-attended Annual General Meeting was held at the Midland Hotel on Wednesday, April 8, preceded by a dinner at which our Treasurer, Miss D. Sayers, was presented with a leather handbag in recognition of her services to the Branch over many years. The Branch attended three One-in-Five lectures during the month of April which were very interesting and instructive.

BELFAST. The annual dinner of the Belfast Branch was held in April, and even though the attendance was smaller than usual, we all enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Lt.-Col. D. H. I. Wilson, A.D.W.R.A.C. Northern Ireland District, came along and told us all about the reunion in London which she attended. We had as our guest Mrs. Mehaffy from the Omagh Branch, who found the trip to Belfast quite worth while. The Branch meetings reopened on the first Friday in September.

BIRMINGHAM. Her many friends will learn with regret that Miss Eunice Mapp, our Chairman, is enduring a period of enforced rest and idleness in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. We miss her very much at the helm in our meetings, though we still receive her instructions by telephone. On a happier note, the Branch was thrilled to hear of the award in the Birthday Honours List of the O.B.E. for political services to Miss J. L. Mann, T.D.; this is the second O.B.E. in the Birmingham Branch. We have held another Old People's party, and this year the guests were taken for a coach trip through the blossom country round Evesham and were brought back to town for tea of meat, pickles, home-made jellies and cakes. On Saturday, April 18, we were greatly honoured with a visit by Dame Leslie Whateley, who talked to us about her world tour as Director of the Girl Guides Association, and we saw her pictures of South Africa, the Philippines, Japan, Hong Kong, Malaya and Thailand. One of Dame Leslie's unforgettable memories was the flight from Johannesburg to Swaziland in a private four-seater plane, piloted by a Boy Scout of 17 and navigator of 15 years, members of the South African "Flying Sea Scouts" of the 24th Pretoria Group. We very much enjoyed the informal talks with Dame Leslie over a cup of tea. Members of the Branch have attended the Rededication Service for the Central Branch British Legion Standard. This Branch was composed entirely of ex-servicewomen. Twelve members attended a Dedication Parade in Birmingham for the Dunkirk Veterans' Association when their Standard was dedicated. On June 7, several members went for a trip along some of Birmingham's canals in a narrow boat, and declared it a very pleasant experience. At our meeting in June, Mrs. Rogers showed some transparencies of a visit to the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge, and those taken at the Old People's party, which caused some merriment.

BOURNEMOUTH. We finished our Spring programme with a supper party in Bournemouth on May 6. Our Summer activities started with a coach trip to London Airport on May 24, where we had a picnic lunch on the airport roof, followed by an interesting tour round the perimeter with a guide. The sun shone for our annual supper party at the home of Miss Carr and Miss Parrett in Wimborne on June 17, and once again Sir Henry Hanham and his sister showed us round the lovely grounds of Dean Court, and organised a game of croquet.

BRADFORD. Since our last report we have entertained members of the Leeds Branch to a social evening, during which we introduced a new type of "beetle game." This and other games were very much enjoyed, and the exchange of hospitality was welcomed by all present. The Branch closed during July and August as most members were on holiday. We met again on September 14 to make the final arrangements for the Northern Command Rally. Eleven members attended, sharing a most luxurious coach with members of the Leeds Branch. We spent a very enjoyable day, and our repertoire of old army favourites made the return journey appear to be a very fleeting one. We send our very good wishes to Mrs. K. Bottomley and her husband who, on their retirement, have gone to live at Flamborough Head. We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Dora Ashton (sister of Emily Ward) as an honorary member. We are also pleased to report that Miss Ivy Weston, B.E.M., has become a life member. We continue to send out our birthday greetings. We send special greetings to Mrs. Lumb on her sixtieth birthday and for her speedy return to good health.

BRISTOL. On April 2 we had a gramophone Recital, which was arranged by Mrs. Morgan. An evening trip to Clevedon took place on May 7. Although the time spent there was short, it was much appreciated by the people who had been able to come. Some of our members live some distance from Bristol and are to be congratulated on their enthusiastic attendance on these occasions. A church parade arranged by the British Legion for the Dunkirk Veterans on Sunday, May 31, was well attended. Our standard was carried by Mrs. Budd, and four other members joined the ex-servicemen. We assembled in Queen Square and then proceeded to the Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob, Tower Hill, via the Cenotaph, where a wreath was laid and a short service held by the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Frost. An Army Junior Cadet Bugle Band led the parade. In July we held a beetle drive. At the quarterly meeting in September, which included a bring and buy sale, Miss Clark (ex-A.T.S.) spoke of the urgent need for new members. We hope many new friends will join us. Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at Legion House, Portland Square.

DUMFRIESSHIRE. On March 12 we had our Annual Dinner, the usual happy social gathering held this time in the King's Arms Hotel. After dinner we did a little Branch business, unanimously electing S/Sgt. Hodgson, P.S.I. of our local W.R.A.C. (T.A.) Company, as our Treasurer, to replace our Recruiting Sergeant who had been transferred to Newcastle. We are glad to welcome the new recruiter, Sgt. Mather and Mrs. Wilson as new members. On May 6, we had a combined meeting with the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) at the Drill Hall, when Miss Ewart, the Dumfries County Supervisor of District Nurses, gave a most interesting talk and display of coloured films about her visit to Finland last year, as a representative at the World Health Organisation Conference. Tea was served afterwards and we had time to meet all our friends socially. Our annual summer outing took place on Sunday, June 7. We had a new luxury bus and went via Moffat and St. Mary's Loch to Hawick, where we had a sumptuous tea in the Victoria Hotel. The sun shone for us to have a wander round, and then we came home via Langholm and Lockerbie after a very happy day's outing.

GIBRALTAR. On the afternoon of April 8, 1959, Brigadier M. K. R. Colvin, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., was entertained to tea by the ex-service members of the Gibraltar Branch under the chairmanship of Major M. N. Jamieson, W.R.A.C. The tea party was held in the Other Ranks sitting-room in Princess Royal Block, and the senior serving members were present. All the eatables were home-made by the ex-service members, and most delicious savouries and cakes were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The Director visited Gibraltar from April 5 to 9, 1959, and her programme included a Rock tour and an afternoon in Spain, in addition to an inspection of 18 Independent Company and visits to all other ranks at their various places of employment. At Corps week-end a most successful dance was organised by the Branch and held in the Europa N.A.A.F.I. on April 25. A sub-committee consisting of Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Southcott and W.O.2 Thornton made admirable arrangements for this dance at which a buffet supper was provided. There was a large attendance of members and friends and many novelty items with attractive prizes were included in the programme. A W.R.A.C. parade service was held in King's Chapel on April 26, at which the lesson was read by an N.C.O. of 18 Independent Company. A donation of £5 was sent to the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund from the offering received at this service.

GLASGOW. A number of our members attended the service in the Cathedral on Sunday, April 26, and afterwards watched the march past of serving members. Later we joined the very pleasant birthday tea in the N.A.A.F.I. Club. During May we had our annual visit from members of the Ayr Branch. After tea at the Club, we went to the Citizens' Theatre, and enjoyed the play, "A Matter of Business." We returned to the Club for a cup of tea afterwards. Members and friends enjoyed a flower-arranging demonstration in the

Club on May 12, and the enthusiasm shown by those present would make this entertainment worth repeating. Thirty-two members and friends enjoyed a bus tour on Saturday, June 13. We visited North Berwick and Dunbar, the wonderful June weather adding considerably to our enjoyment. Our Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 28, at 6.30 p.m. in the George Hotel. Tickets, £1 1s. each, may be obtained from the Secretary. We look forward to meeting many friends.

GRIMSBY. Our April meeting was very interesting, as Mr. F. Wood (of our local radio and television shop) gave a talk on "Evolution of the Gramophone." It was surprising to hear how we have expanded from old Edison Bell with the large horn to the stereophonic sound of the present day. In May we held our Annual Meeting, opened by Capt. Stone and attended by 26 members. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. It was proposed by all members to send Mrs. Jenkins £10. As June is the month when those of us in the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) go to annual camp, we thought it would be helpful to be told how to use our cameras properly. An expert came from a local chemist's shop with a varied selection of cameras, and very kindly ran a film through which was taken at camp two years ago. The 307 (Northern Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), spent a very enjoyable camp at Blackfell, Washington, in fine but windy weather. We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Loewenthal and Miss Burton as visitors; it was like old times to see them again in the Sergeants' Mess, and they were able to meet The Duchess of Devonshire.

LEEDS. Our meetings are held regularly each month. In April we had a talk by a "Beauty Counsellor," a member acting as model for the demonstration. The May meeting was a visit to the C.I.D. Information Department, where the system of the police patrol cars was explained to us. We saw the telephone switchboard and wireless in operation and were told about the duties of the police dogs; we also visited the garage and found the seats in the "Black Maria" very comfortable. It has now been arranged that four members offer to provide the refreshments at each meeting and this scheme seems to be creating the active interest desired. One of our physically handicapped members has been provided with a typewriter by the Branch.

LONDON. A most successful bring and buy sale was held on April 2, when an amazing variety of articles were available. A much-looked-for talk on "Plant Pathology" by Miss Wilson had unfortunately to be postponed owing to the illness of the speaker; we hope, however, to have the pleasure of hearing her at some future date. On May 7, our old friends, the Mullard House Singers, once again entertained us with songs from their repertoire. We all look forward to these occasions with pleasure. May 21 brought our President, Miss E. Thompson, to talk to us about her visit to Canada. It was most interesting having news

of the progress of the St. Lawrence Seaway, now of course officially opened by Her Majesty The Queen. We learned much of that vast part of the Commonwealth and of its people, many of whom we met in our own land during two great wars. Miss I. Brown conducted a lively discussion on "Spiritualism" on June 18, a controversial subject but, nevertheless, very interesting.

PRESTON. The Branch held their General Meeting in November 1958, and a very enjoyable year closed with the donation of £7 7s. to charities. One guinea each went to Pestalozzi Children's Village, British Empire Leprosy, British Legion Children's Home, Preston School Children's Holiday Home, Preston Branch National Spastic Fund, Mentally Handicapped, Shepherd Street Children's Mission. The annual reunion was held on April 23, and 22 members and friends enjoyed a meal at a restaurant, and went to the show "Bless the Bride."

SHEFFIELD. In May a party of 36 paid a visit to the passenger vessel *Cotopaxi* at Liverpool, and afterwards—from the sublime to the ridiculous—we went on a river cruise. The weather was perfect and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. In June we had a beetle drive which was quite unorthodox, but nevertheless fun. So many of us were packed into our small room that we could not budge once we were seated; one table had five players, and a minute or so after we had started a suspicious player on another table decided to check the dice and found there was an extra 4 instead of a 6. At the end of June we had a most enjoyable evening at the home of our Chairman, Mrs. Tannett, at Bamford. We were very pleased to have Mrs. Marshall with us, and it was so nice to see our friend Mrs. Hudson after her long spell in hospital. Our swimmers are still going strong, and I am pleased to say our latest recruit is about to become amphibious any day now.

SINGAPORE. Since our last meeting an unusually large number of faithful supporters have left for home, and, with the added disadvantage of a very wet day, attendance at the June meeting was much reduced. However, we were pleased to welcome a new member, Mrs. E. D. Smith (Jill Waycott), who came from her home in one of the outlying islands to enrol. Our guest speaker was Capt. Baxter, Royal Signals, who had recently visited Nepal. He gave us an exceptionally interesting talk on this isolated country and its inhabitants, and added to the interest by showing his own excellent colour slides.

The September meeting of our Branch was again a very small gathering, as we have not so far found new members to take the places of the numerous wives who have returned to the United Kingdom during the summer months.

Our Area Chairman, Lt.-Col. R. D. Allerton, attended this meeting and played for us a recording of the speech made by the Director, Women's Royal Army Corps, to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the inauguration of the Auxiliary Territorial Service. This was greatly appreciated by all present.

WEYMOUTH. The Branch, now well into its second year, has 22 members and meetings are held regularly on the first and third Wednesday of each month in the R.A.S.C. Association Club Rooms. Our first Chairman, Mrs. V. Hurdle, had to resign owing to her husband's indisposition, and Mrs. N. M. Fall, B.A., was elected in her place. The first birthday social held in November and attended by 70 people, was a great success, and at the Christmas party, nearly 40 children (mostly our own) were entertained. Later in the year there was a trip to Bristol Zoo during the school holidays, and this is likely to become an annual event. Two evening coach trips were organised and the husbands seemed to enjoy them immensely. Funds were raised by raffles and a jumble sale, and in July the Branch took over the barrel-organ of the National Fund of Polio Research for one day and in it collected £35. Mrs. Fall has arranged an impressive programme which has already included a talk by the Mayor of Weymouth, and a "Beautician"; and coloured films of Weymouth and abroad.

THE VICTORY EX-SERVICE CLUB

THE Victory Club, where many members of the A.T.S. attended the Reunion Dinner in 1958, was originally founded as the Veterans' Club (later entitled the Allenby Club), as a memorial to those who fell in the Second World War and a tribute to those who returned. It moved to its present premises in September 1948, and now has a membership of 26,000, composed of ex-Servicemen and ex-Servicewomen from all parts of the world. H.R.H. The Prince Philip presided at the official opening and became its Patron-in-Chief.

The Victory Club is not a hostel but a membership club open only to ex-Servicemen and their wives and ex-Servicewomen and their husbands, irrespective of former rank. For a full year the membership fee is only 10s., life membership costs £10, and there is no entrance fee. Under a new scheme wives of ex-Servicemen members and husbands of ex-Servicewomen members may now join this Club and avail themselves of all amenities, including the occupation of bedrooms. Serving members of H.M. Forces are not eligible to join.

The Club has over 300 bedrooms, including 59 double rooms available for occupation by married couples (both of whom must be members). Rooms may be booked for up to ten days at a time. The Club does not cater for permanent residents. Accommodation is reserved for members only and cannot be occupied by guests.

In addition to the large Club lounges, there is an excellent library, a ballroom, dining-rooms, cafeteria, smoking-room, bar and bar lounge, billiards room with three full-sized tables, and provision for darts, chess and other games. There is also a private lounge for ladies. Members are permitted to bring guests into the public rooms and also to entertain them in the dining-rooms, cafeteria or bar. Accommodation can be booked for meetings, reunions and dinners for O.C.A. and other ex-Service organisations. Forms of application for membership and full details of the Club can be obtained from the Secretary, The Victory ex-Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London, W.2.



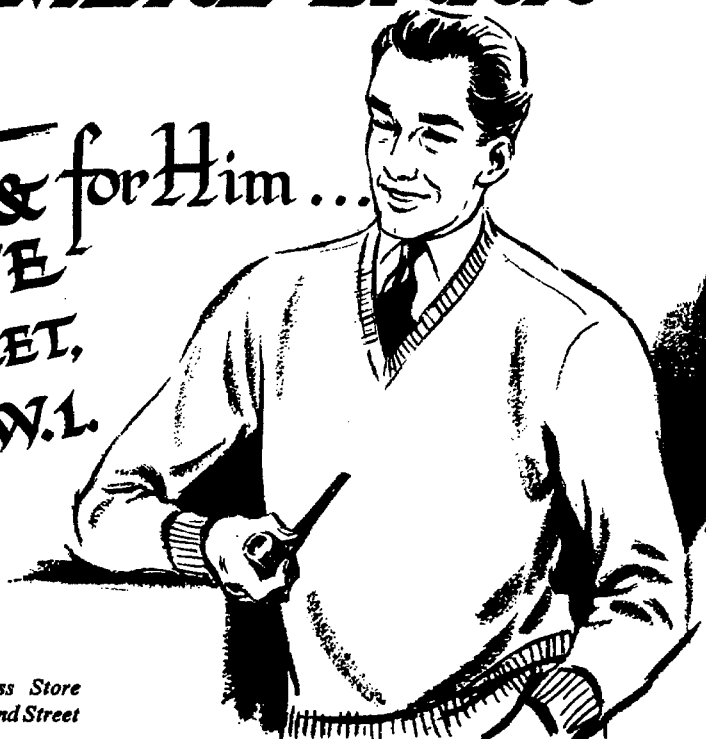
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Danish Conquest

THE South-Western District, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), were honoured to receive a three-day visit from the Director of the Danish Lottekorps to their annual camp at Gosport. Col. L. Gerlach Neilson had already visited some of our regular units, and her visit to the T.A. came at the end of a very hectic fortnight in the United Kingdom.

Any fears we may have had about entertaining a foreign V.I.P. were quickly dispelled on her arrival. She was a most charming guest and took a keen and lively interest in all our activities. We never did get around to pronouncing her surname correctly, but in a country noted for its devotion to the canine breed she will, I know, regard it as a measure of our affection and esteem that amongst ourselves we christened her "the Great Dane."

During her visit she saw all aspects of our T.A. training—drivers, clerks, cooks, storewomen and medical orderlies. She visited 70, 71, 73 and 74 Independent Companies, W.R.A.C. (T.A.) in turn, and soon had the girls chattering away about their training and their civilian jobs. On the last day she visited Netley Hospital to see the medical orderlies. By this time we had got over our initial astonishment at the Colonel's excellent command of English, but we were surprised and delighted to hear the Matron, Lt.-Col. E. Somerville, A.R.R.C., greet her in fluent Norwegian. A conversation between a Norwegian and a Dane is apparently akin to one between a Cornishman and a broad Scot.

The Colonel's visit happily coincided with the Officers' Mess Cocktail Party, and we were able to

introduce her to our many guests from the West Country and from neighbouring units. She also went on a tour of Portsmouth Harbour with some of the girls. Fortunately, her visit was blessed with brilliant sunshine and the outing was a great success.

Throughout the visit there was a lively exchange of information about our respective Corps. At first sight the Lottekorps would appear to be the equivalent of our T.A., but a small number of its members serve in a regular capacity as civilian employees of the Danish War Department. Indeed, one of the objects of the Director's tour was to investigate the possibility of giving these regulars a military status, possibly on the lines of our regular Type "R" engagement for local service. Non-regular service in the Lottekorps is unpaid and its members provide their own uniform. Only officers and N.C.O. instructors go to annual camp, for which they receive a daily rate of pay irrespective of rank. Social activities are practically non-existent, as training goes on until about 10 p.m. And yet they have a volunteer strength of over 7,000 out of a total population of 4,000,000. The minimum age for enlistment is much lower than ours—the Colonel's own daughter has been a member since she was fourteen. The standard of training is very high as most of the volunteers follow their civilian trades.

We said good-bye to our distinguished visitor with genuine regret. We wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Twelve Men in Denmark

BRIGADIER GEORGE CHATTERTON, D.S.O.

I HAVE just returned from a tour extraordinary, in the company of ten ex-Servicemen of ten different nationalities. The Danish Resistance Movement decided that they would like to invite a number of nationals, who fought and suffered in the world wars, to visit their country and study its organisation, history and development. They applied to the World Veterans' Federation, who sent out an appeal to their member countries, and ten complied. I was the lucky member of the British Isles who took part in this experiment, and other countries which supplied representatives were Turkey, Greece, Finland, Sweden, Belgium, France, Holland, Italy and Yugoslavia. We moved as a body of twelve men, as we had a Dane as our guide and an American who operated a movie camera in order that a complete record could be kept.

These twelve men came together by chance and were an example of the many millions which they represented. None was particularly outstanding in peace, yet all had pretty significant war records. The Finn had fought against the Russians and had lost his leg at the age of 15, but he fought on, and even today, with one leg, he is an international skier. The Swede, despite the neutrality of his nation, volunteered and fought with the Finns, and

suffered with them. The Frenchman won the Legion d'Honneur in the 1914-18 War, fought in the Maquis, walked out of France through Spain, joined the Free-French in North Africa, and finally fought a squadron of tanks at Cassino, was wounded, and won the Croix de Guerre. The Belgian, as a young student during the German occupation of his country, formed an underground university in which 800 students were able to fight as resistant groups as well as study and pass their examinations despite the German ban. The Greek and Yugoslav both fought in the resistance against the common enemy, the Germans. The Turk was wounded and paralysed in the foot as a young volunteer in Korea, and the Italian fought in North Africa and at El Alamein and was decorated by the Germans with the Iron Cross for valour. The Dutchman was put into a forced labour camp by the Germans when he was a student, escaped, was captured and received the traditional treatment at the hands of the Gestapo, ended up in England, in the Netherlands Forces, and finally fought in Indonesia, where he was wounded and decorated. The Dane fought in the Danish Resistance from the age of 18, and the American was an A.B. in the U.S. Navy and was now a welfare worker.

The tour was organised with brilliance from the start. We were first of all taken to one of the Folk-High Schools, famous throughout Scandinavia. Here we were given a complete series of lectures for three days, on the culture, politics, welfare organisations and industrial background of Denmark. We had to bed down two in a room, and a good example of the understanding that prevailed was that the Turk and the Greek chose to sleep in the same room. This experience bound us all together at the earliest stage.

I was fortunate enough to visit a peasant farmer's small-holding with the Yugoslav, a communist. This Dane, the standard smallholder, was netting £600 a year on 16 acres, and I have seldom seen a more efficient man. His standard of living was quite remarkable, and all achieved by his own hard work. The Yugoslav had a great number of searching questions to ask him, and I was deeply impressed with the way the young man answered. The Yugoslav was also overwhelmed, and said to me afterwards that he had had his eyes opened. He had never seen anything like it in his life, and of course his impression was increased as this man was a peasant and unprivileged.

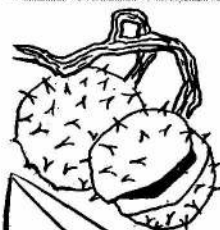
We all had our horizons immensely broadened, and the Danes were delighted with the wonderful spirit which developed among the twelve nationals. It is proof that men can get together in good faith and fellowship, however unpromising the political climate, and it is a wonderful tribute to the Danes who inspired and arranged the tour, and to the World Veterans' Federation who made it possible. If the Federation does nothing else, it has fulfilled one small item of its charter, and that is the creation of good-will and understanding among nations through the medium of ex-Servicemen.

Q.M.A.A.C. OVERSEAS OFFICERS

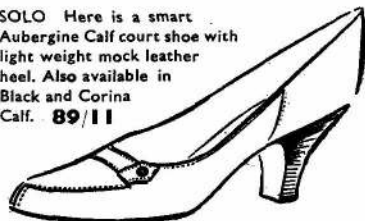
FOR the eleventh time overseas officers of the Q.M.A.A.C. met for tea and talk at the kind invitation of Mrs. O. K. King (Jordan) on Saturday, June 27, at her house, "Trequites," Streatham Hill. Her garden, surprisingly rural and secluded, was much admired, and in particular the hollyhocks and Madonna lilies made a lovely show. Dame Helen was there and we were all delighted to see her so well and active. Others present were Miss Wotzel, Miss Cliff, Mrs. Vyvyan (Leacock), Mrs. Grundy (Saunders), Mrs. Coplestone (Francis), Miss Baker, Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, Mrs. Clifton (Jones), Mrs. Newton (Betts), Mrs. Coombe (Van der Weyden), Mrs. A. Garrow (Cable), Miss Fawcett, Mrs. Clough (Lightfoot) and Miss Bertrand. Miss Douche was unable to come at the last moment owing to a knee injury, and Miss Marsden and Miss D. M. Johnson were also prevented by illness. We send them our sympathy and hope of speedy recovery. Mrs. Garrard (Barr) and Miss E. Grundy were on holiday. Mrs. Clough has recently joined the ranks of grandmothers—by no means the first. We all look forward to this annual opportunity to meet old friends, and hope that Mrs. King knows the very great pleasure her hospitality gives us. Thank you, Jordan!

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HONOURS AND AWARDS

Birthday Honours:

D.B.E.: Brigadier M. K. R. Colvin, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C.
O.B.E.: Lt.-Col. L. E. Baldwin.
M.B.E.: W.O.2 V. K. Hamilton.
B.E.M.: S/Sgt. S. L. Williams.
B.E.M.: Cpl. (A/Sgt.) I. F. A. Jones (for services in Malaya).
Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: Lt. (Q.M.) W. D. Andrews.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

REGULAR ARMY

Major: J. Cato-Symonds, J. B. Macdowall, E. G. Pritchard-Davies, R. Ruston.
Captain: A. M. Dobson, A. A. Farrington, J. A. Farrington, V. C. Jones, G. A. Sergeant.
Lieutenant: E. R. H. Baker, B. Craik, J. M. Dicker, M. Hapgood, P. M. Rees, N. M. Simpson.
2/Lieutenant: J. P. P. A. Evans, M. J. Kevan, K. M. Johnson, B.A., F. A. Price, B.Sc., P. A. Scott, G. Wheatley.

Short Service Commissions

Major: E. S. Cowper.
Captain: A. S. Nicholson, C. Mackinnon, E. M. Salmon, A. E. Wright.
2/Lieutenant: A. F. Hill, C. M. Weatherill.

RETIREMENTS, ETC.

REGULAR ARMY

Retirements on retired pay: Major A. A. Locke, B.A.
Resignations: Lt. C. S. Babbage (McFarlane), Lt. S. J. Burgess, Lt. B. M. Clements (Scott-Easton), Lt. R. C. Giles, Lt. E. M. M. D. S. Hartland (King), Lt. P. M. Heath, Lt. D. J. Lucas (Davidson), Lt. M. H. Marsh, Capt. A. A. Moss (Farrington), Lt. S. F. B. Proctor, B.A., Lt. B. D. Watts.

Short Service Commissions

Resignations: Lt. E. A. Butler, Lt. F. A. Crick, Lt. D. G. Murray.
Relegation to R.O.: Lt. J. H. S. Alexander, Lt. M. Woodcock (Ungar).

Honorary Colonels

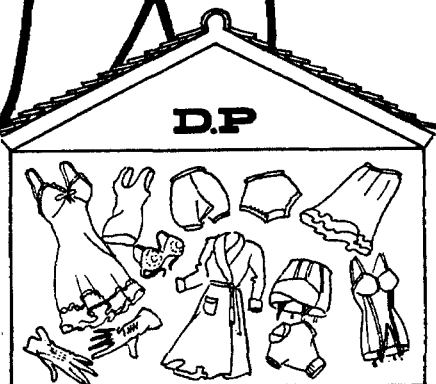
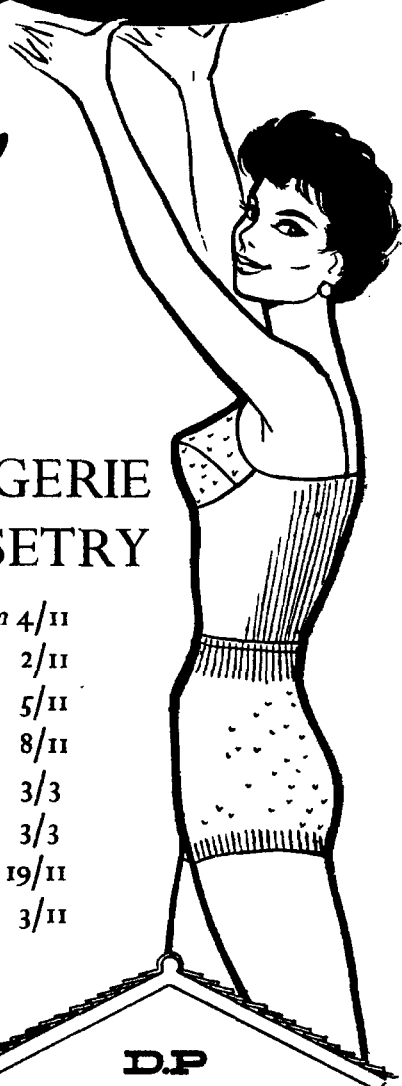
The following has been appointed Honorary Colonel:
Controller V. J. C. Stirling, O.B.E., T.D., to 317 (Scottish Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

Dorothy Perkins

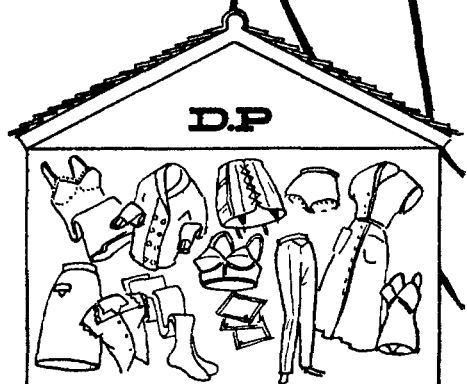
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stretches
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PYJAMAS	„ 19/11
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THE
COUNTRY





THE LIONESS

Vol. XXXII

November 1959

No. 3

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

Should Old Acquaintance Be Forgotten

HOW many women have served with the British Army in the half-century since the F.A.N.Y. was formally constituted in 1909? The number must be well over half a million. Most of them, we know, look back with warmth on their service days, and welcome a chance to exchange reminiscences. Many of them are sincerely interested in the progress of the Corps which has grown up from the seeds they helped to sow. Yet about only one in a hundred thinks of taking the simple step which would keep her easily and permanently in touch with her old companions and up to date with the news of the W.R.A.C.

In this issue of *The Lioness* we are publishing a special four-page supplement which we are asking every subscriber to tear out and send on to some ex-service friend who is not a member of the

Association. It gives a sample of the ground covered in the Journal, but the full issue includes many other items of interest—a "News of Old Comrades" column, reports of reunions and branch activities, news of W.R.A.C. and W.R.A.C. (T.A.) Units, movements of serving officers. You can have it quarterly, with all the other benefits of Association membership, for 6s. a year or £6 for life.

If you are a new reader, and if you like this extract, we hope that you will fill in the coupon on page 50 and send it off today with your subscription. If you do not like it, please do not tear it up, but sit down and write us an article of the sort that you would prefer to read. All ex-service women are potential contributors as well as potential readers, and the life of the paper depends on your support from both angles.

What About You?

DAME REGINA EVANS, D.B.E.

HAVING been appointed Chairman of the recently reformed Headquarters Area, which includes all those members of the Association who for some reason cannot belong to a local branch, I want to tell all members and former members of the area how much I should appreciate any letters or news they would like to send me. The late Mrs. Pratt Barlow had many correspondents from the home country and overseas, and in this way kept in touch with many Old Comrades. I will try and follow her example.

I remember so well my early posting to Durham for one of the first reception stations. We none of us knew much about anything, least of all training, but how well we masked our ignorance. What a great debt I owed to my officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s—my Adjutant, Junior Commander (afterwards Chief Commander) Patrick, Senior Leader Gibbons (a tower of strength), Ursula Hacking (later a Senior Commander but then our Chief Clerk), and many others. I should like to hear from some of them again.

In Edinburgh I had one of the gayest periods of my service. On my appointment there I was at first regarded as rather an interloping Saxon. When my Welsh ancestry came to be realised life was easier, and I now like to think of all the real and lasting friends I made at Craigmillars. I should like to hear from Helen Donaldson, who was my Second-in-Command—and what happened to Sgt.

Binns who was in charge of that lovely kitchen? I know she got a commission, but beyond that, nothing.

Of course Chilwell was the group where I had more personnel and larger responsibility than anywhere else. It was a wonderful experience. I often see many who served there with me—dear Mrs. Dixon, Flavia Phillips, Sgt. (now Lt.) Andrews, C.S.M. Clulee and R.S.M. Dagnall—but there are actually hundreds more who are always interesting to meet. Let me have your news—write to me at 14 Culford Mansions, London, S.W.3, and tell me all about your careers and (even more important) your marriages and children.

Forgive this rather egotistic article, but I know what pleasure it would give me to come together with my Old Comrades, and I feel that perhaps through me and the Headquarters Area we may be able to bring into touch many others who have lost sight of their wartime friends.

(*Dame Regina is clearly not egotistic enough to give news of her own activities since the war. She was Chairman of the Women's Section of the British Legion for eleven years and is still on the Committee of "Regina House," the home which she started for maladjusted children. She also started a home for children from broken homes. She is now Chairman of the London Hostels Association, dealing with 2,300 boys and girls, and a member of the Lord Chancellor's Pensions Tribunal.*)

BACK TO ACK-ACK

SGT. I. JAMES, W.R.A.C.

THE GUN in our Museum at Guildford is a permanent reminder of the association of the A.T.S. and later the W.R.A.C. with the Royal Artillery in Anti-Aircraft Command. I am one of the W.R.A.C. who still serve with the Anti-Aircraft element of the Royal Artillery, on the permanent staff of the School of A.A. Artillery at Manorbier in Pembrokeshire. Until the beginning of this year the W.R.A.C. contribution was limited to provision of Mess Staff, Kinetheodolite operators and Radar operators who operate the Air-Sea Watch system while firing is in progress, but last January the association between W.R.A.C. and the Ack-Ack gunners became a closer one, when six of us entered into the strange new world of guided weapons.

Our main job in the Wing is to operate a full working model of the Thunderbird weapon system. This model consists of a colourful layout showing a guided weapon battery, complete with a wireless vehicle, radars, generators, command post and several Thunderbirds, all deployed in a picturesque country village with its own church, inn and golf course. Surrounding this panorama are pieces of the full-sized equipment which we operate. They

in turn activate the scale models to such precision that the entire drill of firing the weapon is performed, the climax being reached when the scale Thunderbirds are actually "fired," giving off clouds of smoke in the process. This demonstration model was built for two main purposes, firstly to put all visitors to the Wing completely in the picture as to how Thunderbird works before they are taken around the real equipment, and secondly as a training aid for instruction in the use of the weapon.

We have performed our demonstration many times, but the culmination of many weeks work and preparation was reached on May 28 and 29. This was when guided weapons opened its doors to many V.I.P.s in the Army, and on the following day to the national Press, complete with T.V. cameras. We in the W.R.A.C. were very much to the fore on these days as it was "our" model that all the guests saw on the very start of their day's tour. The six of us had been treated by the Commandant of the School to a free hair style for the occasion and, with this sort of treatment in mind, we are willing to cope with many more open days.

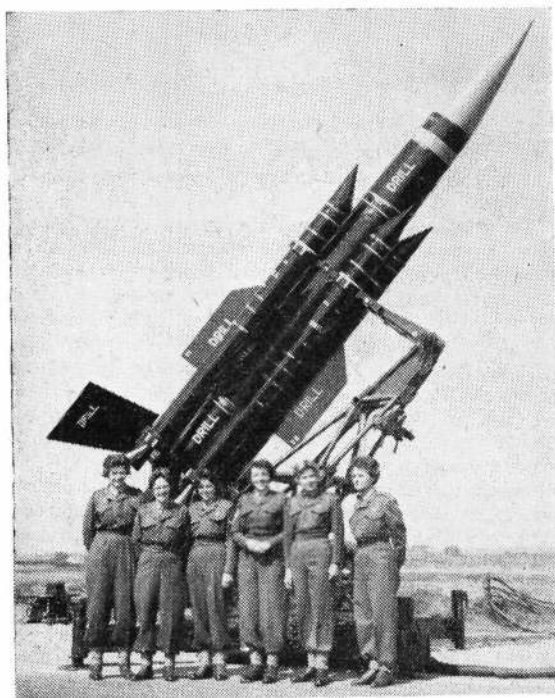
We only work with guided weapons in the instructional stage, as the operational regiments are not mixed, but we are proud to work with the R.A. in this new field and we hope in our small way we are carrying on and keeping alive the traditions set by our sisters before. In the future, more W.R.A.C. will be required to work in the ever-expanding G.W. Wing, and their duties are expected to become even more interesting as new equipment is produced. Here indeed is an opportunity to show that we can take the latest developments of the Army in our stride, and we hope that the appeal of this new work will attract more and more women who have the ability to deal with such complex equipment.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

TWO HUNDRED women represented 12th Battalion, W.R.A.C., on a parade blessed by one of the few sunny days in April, and witnessed the presentation of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to W.O.2 Elsie Gladys Horlock by Brigadier the Hon. M. Fitzalan Howard, M.V.O., M.B.E., M.C., Chief of Staff, London District.

W.O.2 Horlock enlisted in March 1941, elected to serve as a cook and rapidly qualified as a B1 tradeswoman. Now, after 18 years continuous service, she is a qualified Cookery Instructor and an A1 Hospital Cook, serving with the Eastern Command A.C.C. Pool.

It is interesting to note that W.O.2 Horlock's father served with the Royal Artillery for 40 years. She has eight brothers and a sister, all of whom have Army Service, and five of her brothers already hold the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. In all, the family have given 262 years' service. As an officer remarked: "Where would the Army be without the Horlocks?"



Members of 3 Independent Company W.R.A.C., School of Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Manorbier, who are employed as a demonstration team in the Guided Weapons Wing, where R.A. personnel are being trained in handling the new surface to air weapon system "Thunderbird."

Left to right: Pte. E. Howard, Pte. J. Allen, L/Cpl. J. Smith, Sgt. I. James, Pte. J. Barnett and Pte. J. Harris.

Part-Time Soldier

LADY BOWYER SMYTH, O.B.E., T.D.

(Honorary Colonel, 326 (City of London) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.))

FIFTY years ago, in July 1909, the First-Aid Nursing Yeomanry (which had already existed unofficially for two years) was formally registered as a voluntary Corps for duty with the Army in war. By the time I joined, in the nineteen-thirties, they already had a fine record of service, training on horseback in 1907 to pick up the wounded and give first aid, driving ambulances and staff cars in the First World War, driving in the General Strike, and coping with any job that came along. Of course I joined as a driver, but soon found myself in my first camp peeling potatoes, being a mess orderly, serving behind the bar, lighting the Soyer stoves in the dark at some unearthly hour in the morning. But we did learn to drive many types of Army vehicles, and how to keep our vehicles on the road, and when I disappeared into a secret rendezvous during the Munich crisis, thanks to all my training, I was able to cope.

Like many F.A.N.Y.s I joined the A.T.S. in 1938 when we formed the first Motor Companies in the A.T.S., and in those early days the F.A.N.Y. motto "*I Cope*" was to serve us in very good stead. I had been R.S.M. of the F.A.N.Y.s and became R.S.M. of the 1st A.T.S. M.T. Centre at Camberley in early 1940. There were very few women in those days who knew much about Army Regulations, but we did get beds and rations and gas masks. We did get our pay, too, though somewhat spasmodically in the first few months, as the Army didn't know much about us either. We took in 100 recruits a week in those early days, and sent them out as drivers all over the country and to France, after a fortnight's intense training. They did not know everything about Part II Orders, but they did know how to get petrol, read a map, and how to cope

with the vagaries of Army officers and Army vehicles. During my service with the A.T.S. I had many varied and interesting jobs, including being lent to the Canadian Women's Army Corps for five months in 1944-45 and Commandant of the A.T.S. Officers' School and O.C.T.U.

Three days after I was demobilised from the A.T.S. in 1948, I was commissioned into the T.A. and appointed C.O. of 326 (City of London) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.). We were soon one of the biggest Battalions in the country, and how proud we were of our City swords on our uniforms. We always had the most tremendous help and encouragement from the Lord Mayor, the Mayors of the London Boroughs in which we had companies, and the City of London Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association. We took part in many of the City's ceremonial occasions, and were made to feel that the City was proud of its only W.R.A.C. Battalion. We held our training nights once a week and went to camp each year with different regiments in different parts of the country. We worked hard and we played hard. I commanded the Battalion for six years, and then when I felt that the break with the T.A. must come at last, I was deeply honoured when Her Majesty The Queen appointed me to be Honorary Colonel of our Battalion of which I was so very proud. Many of our original members are still with us.

If anyone wants a really worthwhile job, then come and join the T.A. You do different things, you meet different people. You learn to live and let live, and make many new friends. You are trained to take your place should the country ever again be faced with an emergency. Life in the T.A. is worthwhile and never, never dull.

REUNIONS

SOUTHERN AREA

WE were fortunate to have a sunny afternoon for the Southern Area Reunion in Bourne-mouth on June 7. Some visiting branches picnicked on the way, others spent their time on the beach, but all met on the steps of the Pavilion about 4 p.m. for a general get-together, Col. S. F. M. Nimmo, D.D.W.R.A.C. Southern Command, presided over a gathering of about eighty members, and we were pleased to have Col. M. Morgan, T.D., as our guest.

3rd GLAMORGANS

THE 3rd Glamorgan Company A.T.S. held their annual "get together" on May 9, 1959, at 137 Caerphilly Road, Birchgrove, Cardiff, the home of Miss Tucker, one of the Company's first members. There were not so many present as usual, but it was a very pleasant evening and, naturally, conversation of the "Do you remember?" type was general.

SCOTTISH GRAND REUNION

March 26, 1960

THE magistrates have very kindly granted us the use of the Banqueting Hall at the City Chambers, Glasgow, less than five minutes walk from four main line stations, and Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal has graciously informed us that she very much hopes to be present. It goes without saying that our Scottish members will be there in force, but we extend a special welcome to our friends over the border. Further details will be published later.

WESTERN COMMAND

DAME MARY RAILTON, D.B.E., A.D.C., has kindly accepted our invitation to attend the Western Command Reunion at Kunzle's Restaurant, Union Street, Birmingham 2, on November 14, and we hope you will join us too. Tickets at 10s., including buffet, may be obtained from Miss E. Udall, 84 Longmore Road, Shirley, Solihull, Warks., or the Branch Secretary. Please send postal order and stamped addressed envelope.

Entertainment in France

VICTORIA RUMBOLD (NEWING)

IT was early 1919, not long after the Armistice had been signed. The Base at Le Havre was closing and some of the personnel were sent up to us at Vendroux. One of the men wanted to produce a musical show for the troops, and asked me to help him to choose the girls. He gave me a script to read, and I was soon able to give him a list of names, all but one character, a slinky, man-snatching creature, I could think of no one suitable, but when I told him so, he replied: "Oh, I had ear-marked that part for you."

Rehearsals went ahead and the play was a huge success. Many requests for it had to be turned down, but we managed to give it ten times in all. Twice it was given in the Leave Camp at Calais. The first time the lights failed just as the curtain was due to go up, but afterwards we were given a wonderful supper of sausage and mash by candle-light, the candles stuck in empty beer bottles. The second time was the day peace was signed, early in July, I believe. The French troops decided it would be nice to hear their guns once more, so at few minute intervals shells screamed over our heads, drowning the words of the cast, till a word was sent by the C.O. and all was quiet once more. Twice we took the play to some troops in charge of German prisoners who were still clearing up the dead from the battlefields not far from Bethune.

Hands were raised in horror at the thought of members of Q.M.A.A.C. travelling and spending two nights away from camp in the company of "men," and at first the C.O. said firmly "No," but my Colonel was approached and he talked her round, so with many misgivings from the C.O.'s office, we were allowed to go.

The first time, the French people were furious because they were not allowed in (there was not even room for all our own troops who had come from miles around), so they tried to burn down the hangar. The C.O. was hurriedly called out, and sent for the Mayor, who pacified the people and we carried on. The second time there was one of the usual French lightning railway strikes. We arrived at the station, at Bethune, to find there were no trains running at all. Consternation, for it meant we could not get back to camp that night. Eventually we arrived at 11 a.m. the following morning, after travelling partly by lorry, and partly by a local goods train which landed us miles from camp, so we had to walk.

What fun it all was, and now, just forty years afterwards, the three principal Q.M.s are still in touch, and meet periodically with the producer and one or two of the men. Such wonderful friendships were formed, friendships that will last as long as life does, and afterwards. Long live the Corps.

CITY OF LONDON A.T.S.

THE DOWAGER VISCOUNTESS TRENCHARD

I HAVE been to All Hallows Church on Tower Hill, which is now completely restored, and lovely as well as interesting historically. I went to see the oak pew paid for by kind members of the City of London A.T.S. Companies. It is the third pew on the right, facing the altar. The end of it is well carved with the A.T.S. Badge, and above and beside it the City Sword which, at the request of the Lord Mayor, we were proud to wear on our left sleeves. About half the pews have war badges on them, but not all yet. I believe it is to be as representative as possible of all those who served in the Second World War from London. We have to thank all those members of the City of London A.T.S. Companies who subscribed for the pew.

To The Secretary,

W.R.A.C. Association,

Duke of York's Headquarters,

London, S.W.3.

I wish to join the W.R.A.C. Association
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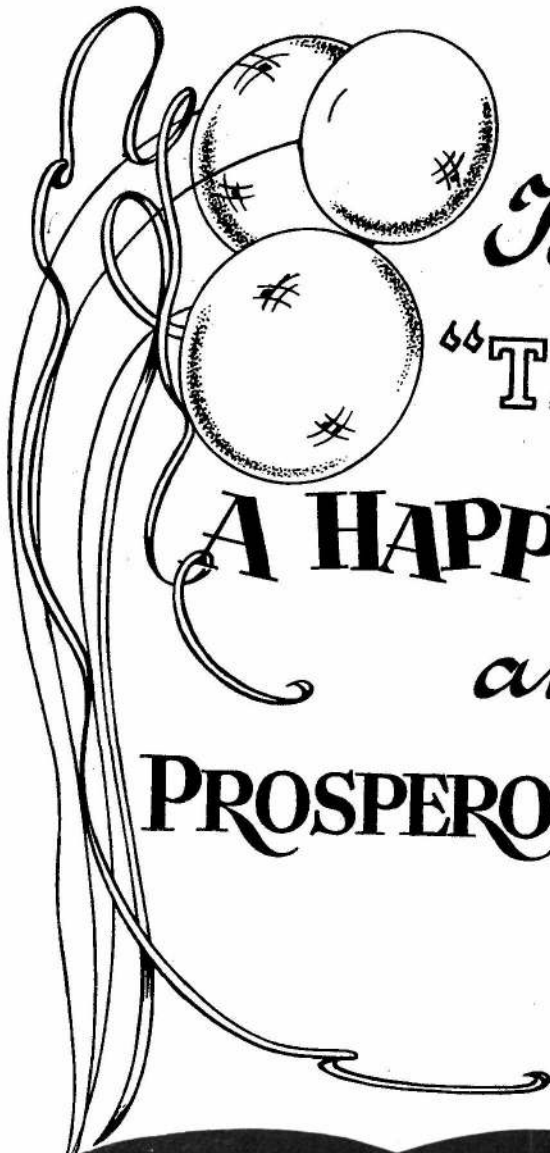
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To all readers of
“THE LIONESS”
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
and a
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!



Dorothy Perkins

Obituary

MRS. S. H. TERRY

THE sudden death of Mrs. S. H. Terry on Sunday, August 2, came as a shock to her many friends. She served from 1917-18, and during that time worked in the Records Department of the Coldstream Guards, where she met her husband who was then serving with the Reserve Battalion. Mrs. Terry was well known to members of Q.M.A.A.C., as each year she assisted with the Annual Reunion at the Duke of York's Headquarters. Both she and her husband, who is Club Secretary, have contributed to the smooth and efficient running of the Club over a number of years.

MISS D. C. JARDINE, B.E.M.

Many members of the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. will remember W.O.2 ("Scotty") Jardine with great affection and will be sad to hear of her death. Born in Glasgow, she enrolled in the A.T.S. in May 1939, and served continuously in U.K. and B.A.O.R. until her discharge on medical grounds in 1956. She was awarded the B.E.M. and the Territorial Medal and Clasp. Miss Jardine, who had been ill for many months, retained a keen interest in the activities of the Glasgow Branch. Her unflinching courage in the face of all her infirmity was an inspiration to all who knew her. Our sympathy is extended to her sister and her many friends.

MRS. J. BLOUNT-DINWIDDIE

(Junior Cmdr. D. M. Peach, A.T.S.)

THE tragic death in April this year of Mrs. Blount-Dinwiddie (Junior Cmdr. Peach, or "Peachie," as she was known to everyone in the A.T.S.) came as a great shock to her many friends. I first met her early in the war at Donnington (Shropshire) Ordnance Depot, where besides being a Platoon Commander she was Q.M., for her Company. With only this slight experience and training she tackled the formidable job of Q.M. for the whole of the rapidly increasing Donnington A.T.S., dealing with all the innumerable stores involved and helping to design and plan the layout of the new accommodation in Venning Barracks and "D" Camp. Her chief interest, apart from her work, was in games and all outdoor activities. Later on she went in for P.T. entirely, a job completely after her own heart and in which she excelled. On her return to civilian life she qualified as a physiotherapist, spent two happy and successful years in South Africa, and then returned to this country to practise near her home at Burton-on-Trent, until her marriage to Col. Blount-Dinwiddie (late R.A.S.C.). Her marriage was tragically short, her husband dying only a few months before her own sad death. In some ways rather a simple person, "Peachie" was very loyal, very sincere, most kind-hearted and sympathetic, and utterly reliable. I, and a great many others, will remember her as a gallant figure and a very lovable person.

R. C. P.

3 good reasons why I bank at the Westminster

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News From the T.A.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

TO Londoners the prospect of annual training at Penhale Camp, Cornwall, is as pleasing as a free holiday by the sea. Thanks to the glorious weather in 1959 our expectations were amply fulfilled.

The high-light of the fortnight was a three-day exercise, more ambitious than anything we had yet attempted. The object was to establish and maintain communications over a wide radius. The W.R.A.C. were really on their mettle, determined to show, that provided their Royal Signals colleagues gave them the communications, the signal centres would be run efficiently. Two W.R.A.C. Squadrons disappeared into the wilds of Devon and Cornwall, with the task of setting up signal centres "in the field." The third was left behind to man the signal centre at Penhale.

For the next three days conditions were slightly primitive and "Compo" was the order of feeding. Everyone worked with a will and soon we were reasonably well organised. The second day we had the pleasure of a visit from Col. J. G. Grierson, O.B.E., and Lt.-Col. E. R. Sykes. It was with a feeling of pride and achievement that we showed them our Admin. areas and Signal Centres.

The exercise over, the last Friday was a free day and most of us joined an organised coach tour of the lovely Cornish coast. It seemed an anti-climax to board the train home next day, the time had passed so quickly, and we should have liked to have done so much more. But at least we felt we had achieved something, and had a taste of service in the field.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY O.T.C.

ONE of the "Scots" in the W.R.A.C. team at the Edinburgh tattoo this year was Sgt. M. L. S. Murray, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), of our unit. Sgt. Murray graduated in medicine (M.B., Ch.B.) this summer. It is not often a medical student remains with an O.T.C. throughout her six years of study, the fact that Sgt. Murray has taken the prize, on graduation, for obstetrics and gynaecology proves that it can be done with considerable success. Her sister Pam served with the O.T.C. and is now in her final year of medicine, and her younger sister Elizabeth now doing second year dentistry is also an enthusiastic member of the O.T.C. The father of this remarkable family is an Edinburgh doctor.

301 (EAST ANGLIAN) BATTALION

WE have just returned from a very successful annual camp at Plasterdown, near Tavistock, when for the first time we camped with H.Q. 161 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), and the 1st Battalion The Cambridgeshire Regiment, while the other Battalions of the Brigade, the 4th Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, and the 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment were in camp at Okehampton, some 20 miles away. Among the many visitors we

had were Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Coleman, K.C.B. C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E., G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command, and our own District Commander, Maj.-Gen. D. E. B. Talbot, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. The Army Commander came by helicopter, almost on to the various groups of driver training that he inspected on Yelverton Airfield. He expressed his satisfaction at the training being carried out, and was very interested in the realistic "injuries" simulated by Capt. Sutton and her first-aid team.

A two-day exercise "Touch and Go" took a team of four drivers and two 3-ton vehicles from each of the six companies, down to Land's End, where all spent a good night in their vehicles. Different aspects of a driver's training were tested and marked at check points, and timing between points played an important part. Col. J. G. Grierson, O.B.E., D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, visited a check point on Bodmin Moor and saw all the teams dealing with a nasty "accident" to a hitch-hiking passenger. The Challenge Cup awarded for this exercise went to "B" Company after a very close finish. The shield awarded each year to the best company in camp was won by "A" Company. On Sunday, May 31, we attended a drum-head service at Okehampton, the strongest of the four battalions on parade, and the Commander of 161 Brigade congratulated us both on our numbers and the standard of our turnout and marching.

Working as reserve transport and R.A.S.C. Divisional transport, we took part in two exercises during the winter, and gained valuable training in night driving on side-lights, map-reading and living under field conditions. Recruiting has been steady throughout the year, and despite the numbers who left, we are holding our own and showing a small rise in strength. "D" Company with its headquarters in Bedford is leading as the strongest company. We are particularly glad to have recruited a few ex-service women recently. The 1st Suffolk (Tpt.) Platoon, "C" Company at Lowestoft suffered a set-back in December when the T.A. Centre caught fire through faulty fitting of a new stove, but everyone turned to, and after much hard work and self help with the paint pot, the Platoon accommodation is better than ever. Eleven people now hold the Institute of Advanced Motorists Certificate, and members of "A," "B" and "F" Companies are entering for the Lorry Driver of the Year Competition. "B" Company are entering a team for the Nijmegen Marches, and are training hard for the gruelling four days march of 120-124 miles in Holland in July. In the world of sport we have brought home two cups (table tennis and darts) from the Eastern Command W.R.A.C. (T.A.) Inter-Unit Tournament.

305 (YORKS) BATTALION

THE unit was in full force at Blackfell Camp, Washington, prepared to work hard, play hard and enjoy itself. The first week was hectic, as when the R.S.M. was not training us for a parade

she was leading us down to swim in Seaburn Harbour. A great deal of work was put into trade training and there was a good majority of trade test passes. Col. V. K. Stead, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., our honorary colonel, was delighted with the parade, which followed a drum-head service, as was Lt.-Col. M. S. F. Millington, O.B.E., T.D., with our training and general organisation.

A few amusing incidents happened, which we must share with you all: the P.S.I. who volunteered to collect the laundry, and found that it was 500 blankets; the cook who mistook gravy salt for vinegar; and the wind which blew a sergeant into a tray of freshly cooked sausages at a barbecue on the beach at Whitburn.

Our thanks go out to all the camp staff, the Messing Officer for looking after the "inner man," and the cooks under the guidance of Q.M.S.I. Sutherland and our own Sgt. Harrison and the Quartermaster. We look forward to 1960 camp.

317 (SCOTTISH COMMAND) BATTALION

HER Royal Highness The Princess Royal visited us in Perth on August 22, and it was a great occasion. The Battalion had gathered from far and near and we were happy to have with us Major MacKenzie and three members of 316 Battalion, and 2/Lt. Le Creurer and two members of the P.F.A.T. from the French War Office, who had accepted a special invitation to attend. A training day had been arranged and Her Royal Highness charmed everyone by talking to so many of the girls and taking such a great interest in their work. The Princess Royal lunched with the officers in the O.R.s canteen, which has been beautifully re-papered and painted by the members of 2nd Perth Platoon. In the afternoon Her Royal Highness watched some of the Battalion recruits starting to work on exercise "Adventure II" for next year's camp. Mothers, fathers, husbands and friends gathered for tea and they were all delighted to have the honour of meeting Her Royal Highness. The Princess Royal left by car after tea, accompanied by Lt.-Col. C. A. Cecil and escorted by 51st ("H") Div. Provost Company.

Annual camp was at Dundonald, Ayrshire. As



H.R.H. The Princess Royal talking to a member of 317 (Scottish Command) Battalion.

well as the usual routine training, we forgathered with U.S.A.F. at Prestwick and carried out a very useful exercise in casualty evacuation by helicopter. There had been a "train accident" near camp, with some serious casualties. We established wireless contact between ourselves and Prestwick and sent an emergency call for a helicopter. We then spoke to the helicopter when it was airborne and were told to set off smoke signals at the edge of the landing strip. The helicopter made a perfect landing and our ambulance drove out with the casualties, who were transferred to the aircraft and taken to hospital.

Recruiting has been excellent, and we are all set to reach 300 by October 31, 1959. Five members of the Battalion have become regulars this year. We know that Pte. McEwan won a certificate of merit at the Depot, and is now serving at Manorbier, Pte. B. Cochrane is serving in Cyprus and Pte. I. Clark is with the A.P.O. in London. We would like to hear from the others. Unfortunately we have lost Capt. A. Field (our Adjutant) to Catterick as G.S.O.3 (Ops.) and W.O.1 J. Castellano to Cyprus; we wish them both every success in their new appointments.

The Edinburgh Tattoo

THIS year "Scots and Sassenachs" from the Women's Royal Army Corps and the Women's Royal Air Force combined to entertain with their dancing, the thousands of visitors from home and abroad at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The women wearing Hunting Stewart tartan skirts, white or blue wind-cheaters and white kerchiefs, were a most popular item and partnered off well with soldiers from all the Highland and Lowland Regimental Depots. In charge of all the women was Capt. K. Carson and W.O.2 Patterson, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), 61 (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.). Other officers of this regiment supported Capt. Carson and helped with all the numerous little duties that have to be carried out back-stage when some 48 artistes must do a lightning change from dancing dress into No. 1 Dress in 7½ minutes.

Among a host of distinguished personages who took the salute, which included the First Sea Lord and the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, naturally the most important to us in the Corps was our Controller, Commandant H.R.H. The Princess Royal. The Women's Royal Air Force also had the honour of dancing before their Air Chief Commandant, H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester, who was present when H.R.H. The Duke took the salute. As luck would have it, H.E. the French Ambassador was taking the salute the night three members of the French P.F.A.T. were there (guests of 317 (Scottish Command) Battalion).

Everyone who took part in the Tattoo and 1 Independent Company and 242 Signal Squadron W.R.A.C. Wing, who worked so hard behind the scenes, must share in a feeling of pride in a job well done, and pleasure at inter-service friendships formed.

UNIT NEWS

W.R.A.C. DEPOT

WE were, of course, very disappointed that H.R.H. The Princess Royal was unable to be present this year at the Corps Day Celebrations, but the number attending was a record (5,000) and suitably marked our tenth anniversary. The programme began with a drumhead service on the square, taken by the Rev. D. D. Lloyd-Evans, O.B.E., Q.M.C., and also a Benediction in the Camp R.C. Chapel. This was followed by the finals of the Land Rover Competition which was open to all Regular and T.A. Units. This year the competition was extended to include some first-aid training. The competitors had to give emergency treatment to a casualty found in their path, change a wheel and drive over the finishing line. Driver and Clerks Training Wing were again the winners in the very good time of 2 minutes 17 seconds. The runners-up, 71 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), were 18 seconds behind. The cup was presented by D.W.R.A.C.

A display of Scottish dancing followed, women of Headquarter Company, partnered by men of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in full highland dress. The W.R.A.C. Staff Band then Beat Retreat, and the visitors dispersed to see the departments and exhibitions open to them throughout the camp. These included the "Hall of Trades" arranged by Holding and Drafting Company in the lower gymnasium, and a display of dolls, elegant models wearing uniforms—from that of the first F.A.N.Y. right up to the Lovat Green uniform now on trial. These were designed and made by 301 Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.). A balloon race was held for the first time this year (the winning balloon being returned from Holland) and produced a profit of over £10 which was included in the Unit's donation to the Association funds. We were very touched to receive a greetings telegram from W.R.A.C. (Regular and T.A.) in Northern Ireland. This gesture was followed by a contribution of £5 10s. to the Church.

All the kneelers required for use in the Church have been, or are being, worked. We are most grateful. There are quite a number of sets of material still available (32s. 6d. each set), and it is hoped that friends who are interested may like to work them for the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart. Friends continue to give generously to the Depot Church. By the great kindness of 306 (Northumbrian) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.) and of Mrs. A. B. Johnston, ex-Q.M.A.A.C., we have been able to obtain a beautiful Book of Remembrance for the period between the end of the last war and the formation of the W.R.A.C., and to have it inscribed with the names of those members of the A.T.S. who died during that period.

Among the distinguished visitors inspecting passing-out parades we have been pleased to have with us Maj.-Gen. Metcalfe, D.P.A., the War Office, Lt.-Gen. Sir Douglas Packard, G.O.C. Northern Ireland District, Brigadier Garthwaite, Commandant School of Anti-Aircraft Artillery, and

our A.A.G., Col. Crawley. Our pleasure at having Col. Crawley was tinged with regret, as it was her last visit to the Depot before her retirement. Other visitors have included Major Korevarr, Commander of M.I.L.V.A. (the Dutch equivalent of the W.R.A.C.), the headmaster and headmistress of two schools, and a group of schoolgirls "Looking at the Life."

We were greatly honoured to be asked to provide a driver and a contingent of stewards for the St. John Ambulance Cadet Rally in Guildford, at which H.R.H. The Princess Margaret took the salute. Cpl. Bently drove the Land Rover in which the Princess rode, and both she and the rest of the contingent were highly praised by the organisers.

During August we had an interesting morning, when a film unit visited us to take shots of a drumhead service as part of a film on the "Story of the Drum." Holding and Drafting Company had a different kind of excitement when the barrack block which they occupy was struck by lightning during a violent thunderstorm. A large piece of ceiling fell into the room, but fortunately no one was hurt.

12th BATTALION, W.R.A.C.

THERE has been a slightly nautical air about Richmond Park Camp this summer after accommodating the W.R.N.S. members of the Combined Services team from the Royal Tournament. Many parents and friends were present at the Battalion "At Home" in June, which included displays of square dancing, drill and P.T. We were fortunate with the bright sunlight that made our teams' rainbow-coloured skirts look so attractive, and all the items were received with delight. The guests toured the camp and agreed that Army living conditions are indeed good nowadays. Ex-Q.M.A.A.C. visitors must have been surprised and delighted to see Miss Elizabeth Humble serving in the N.A.A.F.I. After the 1914-18 War, Miss Humble went to the U.S.A., returning in 1942 to serve again during the last war. She is welcomed back yet again to serve with the Army.

Among our other activities, we have provided drill and P.T. displays for the Tattoo at Luton Hoo in aid of Spastics, for the Eastwick County Primary School Fete at Bookham and for the War Office Sports Meeting at the Duke of York's Headquarters. The Battalion Branch of the Association has entertained the Kingston Townswomen's Guild to tea, and as a result of this visit we have been to talk to Guild members and their daughters about the W.R.A.C.

W.R.A.C. HEADQUARTER MESS

AT the Annual General Meeting of the Mess it was agreed that the cost of the Corps print, *The Recruiting Sergeant*, should be reduced to 5s. a copy, with 1s. extra for packing and postage. Applications for prints should be made with a remittance to: The Secretary, W.R.A.C. Headquarter Mess, Queen Elizabeth Camp, Guildford, Surrey.



Members of 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Square Dancing

Courtesy: The Editor, Surrey Comet

SPORT

Lawn Tennis

Twenty-four players from Southern and Eastern Commands and B.A.O.R. attended the Army (Women's) Lawn Tennis Association Trials at Aldershot on May 28—and further trials to select the team for the Inter-Service Championships were held on August 7. Capt. D. J. Temple became Army Singles Champion 1959, winning also the ladies' doubles, a victory shared with Major N. J. Comyn. Lt.-Col. C. de Garis Martin and Pte. Stubbs won the mixed doubles. The ladies' plate was won by Sgt. S. F. M. Whitehead. In the inter-unit championships the winners were the Royal Herbert Hospital, with Eastern Command as runners-up. We came second to the W.R.A.F. in the inter-Service championship. The Army team had a busy match list this season, playing against the Bank of England, University of London, Roehampton Club, and several others.

Fencing

The Army (Women's) Fencing results were: 1st, 2/Lt. Binney; 2nd, C.S.M.I. Kitchen; 3rd, Cpl. McClatchey.

In the Inter-Service Fencing the W.R.A.C. triumphed, gaining 16 victories to the W.R.N.S. 9 and the W.R.A.F. 2. Capt. J. Tappin came 1st in the final pool of Women's Individual Foil Championships held at the Royal Tournament.

Cricket

The Army won the Inter-Service Cup, beating the W.R.A.F. by 160 runs, and the match against the W.R.N.S. ended with the W.R.N.S. 110 and the W.R.A.C. 113 for 1, with Capt. Maclagan 71 not out. Many congratulations to our team. The inter-Command match ended in a draw between Eastern and Western Commands.

Swimming

The Army came 3rd in the Inter-Service Championships, one point behind the W.R.N.S. The W.R.A.F. had a well-deserved win. Despite this result, the standard of our swimming was good, and at the Army Championships two individual records were broken. Sgt. P. E. Milne won the Army breast-stroke event for the fourth year in succession.

Badminton

The Individual Champion is once again Capt. M. E. Maclagan, with Sgt. C. V. M. Lovett runner-up. Six teams entered for the inter-Command matches, resulting in a win for Eastern Command. Sgt. M. M. T. Powell won the Plate Championship after a hard-fought final against Cpl. F. Mills. The team and other players were fortunate to receive coaching from Mrs. Horner, known to some of us as ex-S.O.P.T. Rhona Barlow. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this extra training and learnt a great deal. The W.R.A.F. won the Inter-Service Championships without losing a match.

One-in-Five

BRIGADIER DAME MARY TYRWHITT, D.B.E.

MOST people are by now aware of the dangers that nuclear warfare could bring to this country, and it has been estimated by N.A.T.O. that the casualties to be expected after the explosion of a hydrogen bomb might give rise to a situation in which the survivors would have to fend entirely for themselves until some sort of normal life could be restored. In the event, much needless suffering could be avoided and homes made safer if certain precautions were taken beforehand and the simple things that could be done by the survivors of such a disaster were more generally known.

The Government attaches great importance to the education of the public in the general principles of self-help under such circumstances, and the Women's Voluntary Service has undertaken to spread information on these principles by means of short talks to one woman in every five between the ages of 16 and 70. This means talking to some 3,000,000 women and is an immense task. The first talk covers the effects and principal dangers of a nuclear explosion and the steps which we could take in our homes to meet its dangers. The second outlines the organised assistance that would go to the aid of the heavily damaged areas, together with suggestions for self-help in the lightly damaged areas and those affected by fall-out. The third gives elementary hints on the care of the sick and injured, with special reference to radioactive fall-out.

My reasons for writing about the One-in-Five scheme in *The Lioness* are to remind members of the Association of the existence of the scheme and also to ask for their help. The target is huge, and although 2,000 W.V.S. members are now giving the talks up and down the country, we are very anxious to increase the numbers of speakers and organisers working on this scheme. There are three ways in which you can help, without necessarily joining the W.V.S.: by training as a speaker, by helping the W.V.S. to organise the scheme locally, or by collecting a group of friends and arranging for them to hear the talks. If you cannot do any of these things, you can at least make sure that you hear the talks yourself.

We all dread the thought of another war, and if it is to be avoided it is our plain duty as individuals to do something concrete to prevent it happening. There are two obvious ways of deterring an enemy from starting a war: one is to have the right weapons with which to retaliate, and the other is to show him that the country as a whole is ready to meet the challenge if it comes.

Ex-service women are quick to recognise a duty when they see it and, as an ex-Director of the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C., I make no apology for saying that it is clearly the duty of all members of the Association to play some part in One-in-Five. May I ask anyone who is prepared to help to write to me at W.V.S. Regional Office No. 6, Government Buildings, White Knights, Reading. I will then put them in touch with their nearest W.V.S. organiser.



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.

Do You Want To Improve Your Driving?

CAPT. G. A. SERGEANT, W.R.A.C., A.M.I.Mech.E.

THE report from 301 (East Anglian) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), in the May issue, will probably inspire many ambitious drivers to attempt the Advanced Motorist's test. This is the entrance qualification for the Institute of Advanced Motorists, a body of people who are appalled at the high accident rate on British roads today, and are trying to do something about it. The examiners are ex-policemen with the Class I Mobile Police Qualification, which demands some of the toughest driver training in the world. The fee for the test is £2 2s.

There is no syllabus for this test. The Institute describes it as a test of two hours' duration during which the candidate will drive over a selected route, including busy shopping streets, unrestricted highways and winding country roads, and all the time the accent will be on safety. They recommend candidates to learn the Highway Code and to read the book, "Roadcraft," published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 3s. 6d. Good driving is concentration and appreciation of one's vehicle. Now to some of the finer points.

First—the Gearbox. This should be used as much as possible since it puts less strain on the engine, less strain on the brakes and enables the driver to get away quickly during and after passing a hazard. By using the gearbox, I do not mean keeping the foot on the clutch. In fact, I recommend keeping the left foot flat on the floor when it is not operating the clutch, which stops this deplorable tendency to "hold" the vehicle on the clutch instead of using the handbrake. Do get into the habit of starting in bottom gear unless you are on a downward slope. "Engine sympathy" is an important part of the Advanced test, and this can

be simply defined as being in the right gear at all times. When I took this test myself it was pouring with rain and one road was flooded, hence I only used my brake four times, all at "Halt" signs. I used the gearbox frequently.

Second—the Brakes. If you have to brake, always check brake first—that means put your foot down short and sharp; release the brake; then put your foot down again hard. This stops that "nose dive" if the brakes are left to the last minute—de clutch just before the engine stalls. Whenever the vehicle is not moving, the handbrake should be ON—at "Halt" signs, traffic lights or police signals, then if another car bumps into the back of your car, you won't go shooting off into cross traffic.

Third—Rear-View Mirrors. These should be clean and correctly positioned so that you can see what is following and give the appropriate signals either by hand or by indicator, but please remember that a signal is only of any use if it is seen by the person who should act upon it.

The cost of insurance and the cost of car repairs are both very high today. Human life is invaluable. It is definitely worthwhile spending time and trouble to develop driving skill.

FORCES MOTORING CLUB

THIS Club aims to bring enjoyment to all members of the Armed Services (including the Auxiliary, Territorial and Reserve Forces) and their old comrades. We go to press too late to publish the two autumn rallies, but those who are interested and require further details are asked to write to the Club's office, 8 Rosoman Street, London, E.C.1.

Life In Berlin

CPL. S. T. RUSSELL, W.R.A.C.

AMONG the numerous overseas postings the W.R.A.C. have to offer, service in Berlin is, without doubt, one of the most unique and pleasant experiences to be encountered.

No. 4 Independent Platoon forms a small but important part of the framework of the Berlin Infantry Brigade Group. We are the only O.R.s of the British Women's Services to serve behind "The Iron Curtain," fifteen of us in all, carrying out our own specific duties and enjoying every minute of it. After duty hours there is never a dull moment in the social life of the Platoon, and it sometimes takes a great deal of thought to choose between the numerous opera-houses, theatres, museums, music-halls, ballets and night clubs. We have two swimming pools in the camp area, one outdoor, and the other which is centrally heated has a private entrance for our use. We have three keen swimmers in the Platoon. Next we have the various clubs and canteens, efficiently run by the voluntary organisations, and the A.K.C. Cinema

which provides the most up-to-date films. Many an enjoyable evening or Wednesday afternoon is spent taking part in table tennis and darts tournaments with neighbouring units, and when the weather permits, cycling or walking to famous beauty spots. In the winter evenings there is a steady flow of invitations to parties and dances from various units in Berlin, and one occasion which we will always remember was a party held in Potsdam. Forces of the other three Allied Powers attended, including a Russian Colonel, and much to our delight, he consented to have a photograph taken with us all. From time to time we have spent an enjoyable evening dancing with our American friends in their sector too. For the quieter members of the Platoon who spend the odd evening quietly reading or pursuing their own particular hobby, we have an excellent up-to-date rest room. Often we spend a musical evening playing records or at the piano.

Berlin itself is a wonderful city and rapidly be-

coming the most modern capital in Europe. It is controlled by the Four Powers, British, American, French and Russian. The Russian Sector is known as the "East," and although it is not entirely "Out of Bounds" to us, we only enter it on official outings or on one of the organised sightseeing tours run by the W.V.S. There are numerous landmarks of interest to the sightseer in the city. The Brandenburg Tor, erected in the 17th century, which now separates the West from the East, is perhaps the most famous. In the American Sector the Airlift Memorial is another, designed to symbolise the bridge formed by the planes which delivered food, fuel, and other supplies to the city during the Berlin blockade imposed by the Russians from June 1948 to May 1949. Some 300,000 flights were made between West Germany and Berlin during that time, and the Berliners will never forget those long grim months of hunger. The gloomy-looking building of Spandau Prison holds the major war criminals sentenced at Nürnberg. Olympia Stadium, where the Olympic Games were held in 1936, has a seating capacity for 100,000. All sports events, mass gatherings and shows take place there. The Kurfürstendamm, which the Berliners call "Kurdamn" is the equivalent of New York's Fifth Avenue and Broadway—a boulevard of restaurants, theatres, night clubs and exclusive shops where one can spend hours gazing at the latest fashions.

It would require years to appreciate the beauty and historical value of this city and it would take the best writer months of hard work to portray it to full advantage. It is indeed a great pleasure to serve with No. 4 Independent Platoon, W.R.A.C., and to take back everlasting memories of a wonderful city, once seen for ever loved.

Corps Celebrations

CORPS WEEK, B.A.O.R., 1959

AROUND the end of February the cry went up, "What shall we do for Corps Day?" Many and varied were the suggestions put forward; however, as sometimes happens, "exigencies of the Service" reared its head and our more ambitious schemes had to be abandoned because the majority of the Battalion would be fully occupied on special duties for a period immediately prior to Corps Day. In the end we settled for a treasure hunt, one section taking part in cars and one section being transported in buses, and then taking part on foot.

On Saturday, April 25, our guests and members of the Battalion reported to the Control Centre at 1415 hours, were given a list of 45 items which had to be collected; and everyone was soon off chasing around the Garrison and surrounding countryside in order to collect as much as possible within the time limit of two hours. As 1615 hours, zero hour, approached, officials in the Control Centre began to be slightly apprehensive. Bonus points were to be awarded for the team returning with the most unusual item, and we were not at all certain whether some of the live-stock from a nearby zoo might not appear on our doorstep, but all was well and the teams checked in thick and

fast. Bonus points were awarded to the winning car team, S/Sgts. Hammond and McCaffrey, Sgt. Pearson and Cpl. Cowan, for their unusual item, a herring complete with false teeth and Paris hat. The winners in the section taking part on foot were L/Cpl. Benson and Pte. Clubley of 5 Signal Squadron, W.R.A.C.

After tea in the Garrison Gymnasium the prizes were presented by the Commanding Officer, 14th Battalion W.R.A.C., Lt.-Col. L. E. Baldwin, O.B.E. The afternoon was a great success, even families and members of other Messes entered into the spirit when aroused from a gentle snooze in the sunshine to produce bowler hats, completed crossword puzzles, stamps showing Hitler's head and various other items.

The W.R.A.C. Collect and special prayers were said in the Garrison Churches during morning services on Sunday, April 26. Cocktail parties given by the W.R.A.C. Officers and by the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess were enjoyed by many guests from the Headquarters.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CORPS

THIS year being the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Corps, Princess Royal's Day was celebrated by a massed church parade of some 500 Regular and T.A. W.R.A.C. from all over Scotland in Glasgow Cathedral, followed by a birthday tea in the N.A.A.F.I. Club.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Nevile Davidson, Minister of Glasgow and Chaplain to Her Majesty The Queen, and the Rev. Ironside Simpson, D.A.C.G. (T.A.) Scottish Command. The Parade Commander was Major E. Duncan, Officer Commanding 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., with Capt. J. B. McVean of 315 (Scottish Command) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.) as Parade Adjutant, and W.O.1 M. Evans, also of 315 Battalion, as Parade R.S.M. Many friends attended the celebrations, including some 40 members of the various branches of the Association, many of whom had served in the Q.M.A.A.C. Senior Magistrate Bailie James Bias representing the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Miss V. H. C. Stirling and Miss Betty Harvie-Anderson and Capt. Taylor-Jones, ex-W.R.A.C. (T.A.), were amongst the congregation, and also some friends from the W.R.N.S. and Q.A.R.A.N.C.

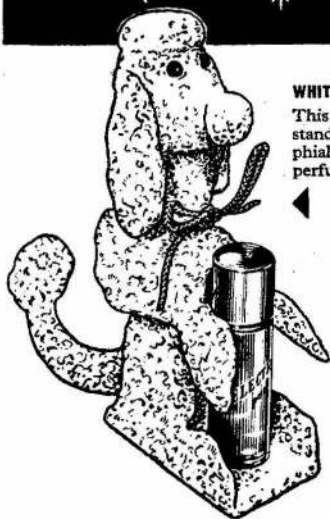
The salute was taken outside the City Chambers by Maj.-Gen. J. F. Macdonald, D.S.O., O.B.E., Commander 52nd Lowland Infantry Division and Lowland District, and Scottish Command H.Q. was represented by Brigadier J. W. Tweedie, Brigadier A/Q, and Brigadier N. Barker, Chief Signal Officer. N.A.A.F.I. laid on an excellent tea at the N.A.A.F.I. Club, and the 4-ft. high birthday cake, weighing 80 lb., made by Sgt. J. Mackenzie, B.E.M., of 1 Independent Company W.R.A.C., was cut by Pte. Toplin, the latest joined Regular recruit in the command. Most of it was afterwards taken personally by Capt. M. Fraser, W.R.A.C. of Glasgow University, to the various children's orphanages and hospitals in Glasgow, and the letters received from the matrons and wardens were deeply appreciative.

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HOLLYWOOD

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

FOR 1959



WHITE POODLE

This perky character stands guard over a phial of Electricque perfume, 6/6



CHRISTMAS BEAUTY BOX

Everything for the perfect make-up... Creme Puff compact, Hi-Fi Fluid Make-up, Hi-Fi Fluid Rouge, Hi-Fi Lipstick, Hi-Fi Creme Mascara, Eye Shadow and Eye Pencil, 35/6

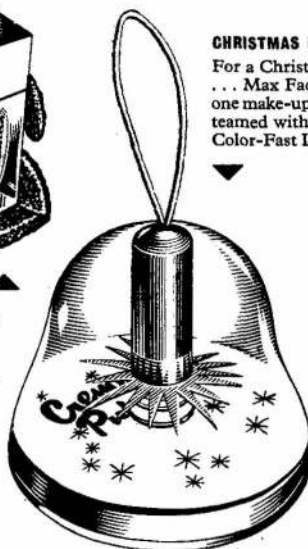
THREE FOR THE ROAD

After Shave Lotion, Deodorant Cologne, Cream Hair Dressing. Unbreakable plastic bottles in transparent travel pack, 18/9



BLACK POODLE

This sleek beauty holds a precious phial of Primitif perfume between its paws, 7/6



CHRISTMAS BELL

For a Christmas belle... Max Factor's all-in-one make-up Creme Puff teamed with Creamy Color-Fast Lipstick, 9/3



HYPNOTIZER

Handbag phial of Hypnotique perfume, garlanded with golden glitter in its own pyramid pack, 8/6

OFFICERS' POSTINGS

(Up to September 30, 1959)

Lt.-Col. (T/Col.) E. M. SYKES, A.A.G. A.G.16, War Office.
 Lt.-Col. L. E. BALDWIN, O.B.E., A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q., London District.

Major (T/Lt.-Col.) N. CHRISTY, T.D., A.D.W.R.A.C. and C.O., 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C., B.A.O.R.

Major D. J. ADAMS, Staff Capt., War Office (P.S.9).

Major C. M. L. BALLANTYNE, Adm. Offr., Nottingham University O.T.C., W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Sub-Unit.

Major J. BERRY, T.D., D.A.Q.M.G. (Finance), G.H.Q., M.E.L.F., Major E. S. COWPER, Sheffield University O.T.C., W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Sub-Unit.

Major E. B. DIXON, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction, Hindhead.
 Major R. M. GREEN, 2IC W.R.A.C. School of Instruction, Hindhead.

Major M. M. FUREY, Depot and Trg. Centre, W.R.A.C. Guildford.
 Major H. GILDEA, D.A.P.M., 140 Pro. Coy. W.R.A.C., Kingston-upon-Thames.

Major C. L. HARLING, Staff Capt. "Q," H.Q., Highland District, Perth.

Major S. A. E. HEANEY, M.B.E., T.D., D.A.D.W.R.A.C., War Office, W.R.A.C. 1(b).

Major D. B. D. LANCE, H.Q., Home Counties District.

Major C. L. LEESE, D.A.Q.M.G. (Qtg.), H.Q., B.A.O.R.

Major M. M. POWER, A.R.R.C., O.C. 307 (Northern Command) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

Major E. G. PRITCHARD-DAVIES, 70 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.), Hounslow.

Major J. E. RODWAY, War Office, Q. (M.) 3.

Major K. W. SAMUELS, 68 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.), B.A.O.R.

Major E. SCOTT, Staff Capt., War Office, A.G. 16(c).

Major E. M. SHIELDS, Staff Capt. "Q," Caterick Area.

Major L. M. STEPHENS, 69 Independent (Shropshire and Herefordshire) Company, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

Major R. STRIDE, Wing Commander, W.O.s' and N.C.O.s' Wing, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.

Major V. J. VOLLER, Adjnt., 327 (County of London) Battalion, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

Major K. M. WATERWORTH, G.S.O.2, War Office (A.E.R./T.A.1).

Major S. W. WHITWORTH, Training Officer, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C., Guildford.

Major D. J. M. WILKINSON, Selection Personnel Staff Establishment, c/o War Office (M.P.3).

Capt. L. E. ALLARDYCE, 29 Families Hostel, Scarborough.

Capt. I. ANDERSON, War Office (E.M.E. 8).

Capt. J. BUNCHER, Adjnt., Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C., Guildford.

Capt. P. J. B. C. CAMPBELL, Staff Capt. "Q," H.Q., Berlin Independent Brigade.

Capt. E. M. CATHERALL, H.Q., 41 Gar. (Transit Sec.), Hook of Holland.

Capt. N. G. DALLAS, 240 Signals Squadron, York.

Capt. A. FIELD, G.S.O.3 (Mob.), H.Q., Caterick Area.

Capt. M. E. D. GIBBS, O.C. No. 1 Company, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C., Guildford.

Capt. C. MACKINNON, S.O. III, War Office (P.R.2).

Capt. E. I. MILLINGTON, Adm. Offr., Bristol University O.T.C., W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Sub-Unit.

Capt. J. D. M. RAVENSCROFT, O.C. 5 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Jamaica.

Capt. M. E. SCOTT, 140 Pro. Company, W.R.A.C., Kingston-upon-Thames.

Capt. J. SHARCOFF, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C., B.A.O.R.

Capt. P. A. SUNNUCKS, Q (A.E.) 1 Stats., War Office.

Capt. J. TAPPIN, F.V.R.D.E., Chertsey.

Lt. R. A. CARPENTER, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C., B.A.O.R.

Lt. (T/Capt.) J. HANDS, S.O. III, War Office, Q (M) 2 (a).

Lt. J. OLIVER, Specialist Messing Officer, H.Q., York Area.

Lt. M. R. ALLEN, 27 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Cyprus.

Lt. J. M. A. ARMSTRONG, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C., B.A.O.R.

Lt. J. L. JOAQUIM, Adm. Offr., W.R.A.C. P.T. Wing, Army School of Physical Training, H.Q. and Depot A.P.T.C., Aldershot.

Lt. H. L. S. PRICE, 3 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Manorbier.

Lt. (T/Capt.) S. P. RICHARDS, Army Team of Lecturers.

2/Lt. (T/Capt.) A. F. HILL, Army School of Physical Training and H.Q. and Depot A.P.T.C. (W.R.A.C. P.T. Wing).

2/Lt. P. A. SCOTT, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C., Kingston-upon-Thames.

2/Lt. C. N. WEATHERILL, Specialist Messing Officer, attached W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.

Amendments to List of BRANCH SECRETARIES

Bristol. Mrs. O. F. Rawlings, 355a Gloucester Road, Horfield, Bristol 7.

Derby.—Mrs. A. Jones, 132 Old Uttoxeter Road, Derby.

York.—Mrs. M. A. Green, Barcroft York Road, Strensall, Yorks.

1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.—W.O.2 J. F. Granger, W.R.A.C.

Aberdeen.—Miss H. T. G. Donaldson, 4 Willow Park Crescent.

BIRTH

Coombes (ex-R.S.M. Carter, M.E.M.). On April 6, 1959, at Aldershot, a son (Nicholas), a brother for Gillian.



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PERSONAL

(For charges and particulars see Contents page)

For Sale. Officers' No. 1 Dress. Height 5 ft. 8 in., bust 38 in., waist 29 in., hips 40 in., and No. 1 Dress, hat and tie. £5 o.n.o. Also green greatcoat, £4 o.n.o. Box No. 6/59.

For Sale. No. 1 Dress, jacket and skirt and hat (6½), £15 or near offer. Also green greatcoat and two bush shirts. All in excellent condition. Height 5 ft. 4 in., bust 35 in., waist 26 in., hips 38 in. Box No. 7/59.

Wanted. W.R.A.C./T.A. Officers in the Worthing, Bognor, Chichester and Eastbourne Areas. Ex-A.T.S. or W.R.A.C. Officers, with or without Signals experience, who are interested in serving with the T.A., please write for fuller particulars to: O.C. No. 5 (War Office) Squadron, W.R.A.C./T.A., T.A. Centre, Upper Brighton Road, Worthing, Sussex. Also ex-Service personnel of all ranks welcomed. Signal experience not essential.

For Sale. Khaki greatcoat, £8. Service Dress, £8; mackintosh and cap. Height 5 ft. 7 in., bust 38 in., hips 40 in. As new. Box No. 8/59.

Wanted. For Standard Bearers. Khaki Service Dress in u/m sizes, must be in excellent condition for dyeing, state price. (1) Height 5 ft. 4-5 in., bust 42 in., waist 32-33 in., hips 44 in. (2) Height 5 ft. 5 in., bust 38 in., waist 30 in., hips 40 in. Mrs. T. W. Cain, "Cherrihurst," Laureston Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man.

For Sale. Officer's No. 1 Dress uniform and greatcoat (Bernard Weatherill). Height 5 ft. 7 in.,

bust 36 in., hips 38 in., waist 26 in. In excellent condition. £10 o.n.o. Box No. 9/59.

For Sale. Officer's No. 1 Dress £12 10s., and greatcoat £12 10s. Height 5 ft. 7 in., waist 26 in., bust 34 in., hips 36 in. Write to Barbara Gibson, 8 Tope Road, Arborfield, Berks.

Wanted — Opportunity for ex-Service Women. Sergeant Permanent Staff Instructor (Signals trained) and Corporal Clerk (GD) required. Type "R" engagement. Apply O.C. 55th (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., 206 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3. **Ex-Officers.** 55th (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., still has few vacancies for W.R.A.C. (T.A.) Officers. Apply O.C., 206 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3.

Wanted. Disused loft, nook or tiny corner reasonably near sea, where cheap caravan or chalet could be placed for odd week-end use. Must be cheap, please, for spinster's retreat! Box No. 10/59.

Wanted. Lady (39), without capital, desperately wishes to start small business or guest house. Would anyone please help! Hard working and genuine. References supplied. Box No. 11/59.

Reunion. Western Command at Kunzle's Restaurant, Union Street, Birmingham 2, on Saturday, November 14. Tickets 10s., including buffet, from your Branch Secretary, or Miss E. Udall, 84 Longmore Road, Shirley, Solihull, Warwickshire.

For Sale. Officer's No. 1 Dress and green greatcoat. Height 5 ft. 4 in., bust 35 in., waist 25 in., hips 37 in. Also No. 1 Dress hat and black shoes, size 5½. Apply Mrs. D. S. Lucas, 7 Strangways, Larkhill, Wiltshire.

"Oversea," 58 West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea. A holiday house for ex-Service women, established 1921, offers single rooms (not cubicles), baths and all meals at moderate inclusive prices. Good food, beds, lighting and hot water; garden to laze in, and uninterrupted view of the sea. Non-Service guests at slightly higher rates. A few rooms also available for permanent letting. Apply The Warden. Tel. Hastings 1200.

For Sale. Handwoven bathroom/nursery rugs, approx. 22 x 36. Nylon 25s. Pure rug wool 37s. 6d., plus 2s. postage. Formica table mat sets in stand 23s. 11d., postage 1s. 9d. Teapot stands 2s. 11d., postage 4d. Handwoven towels 7s. 6d. each, plus postage. 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 CAL4952.



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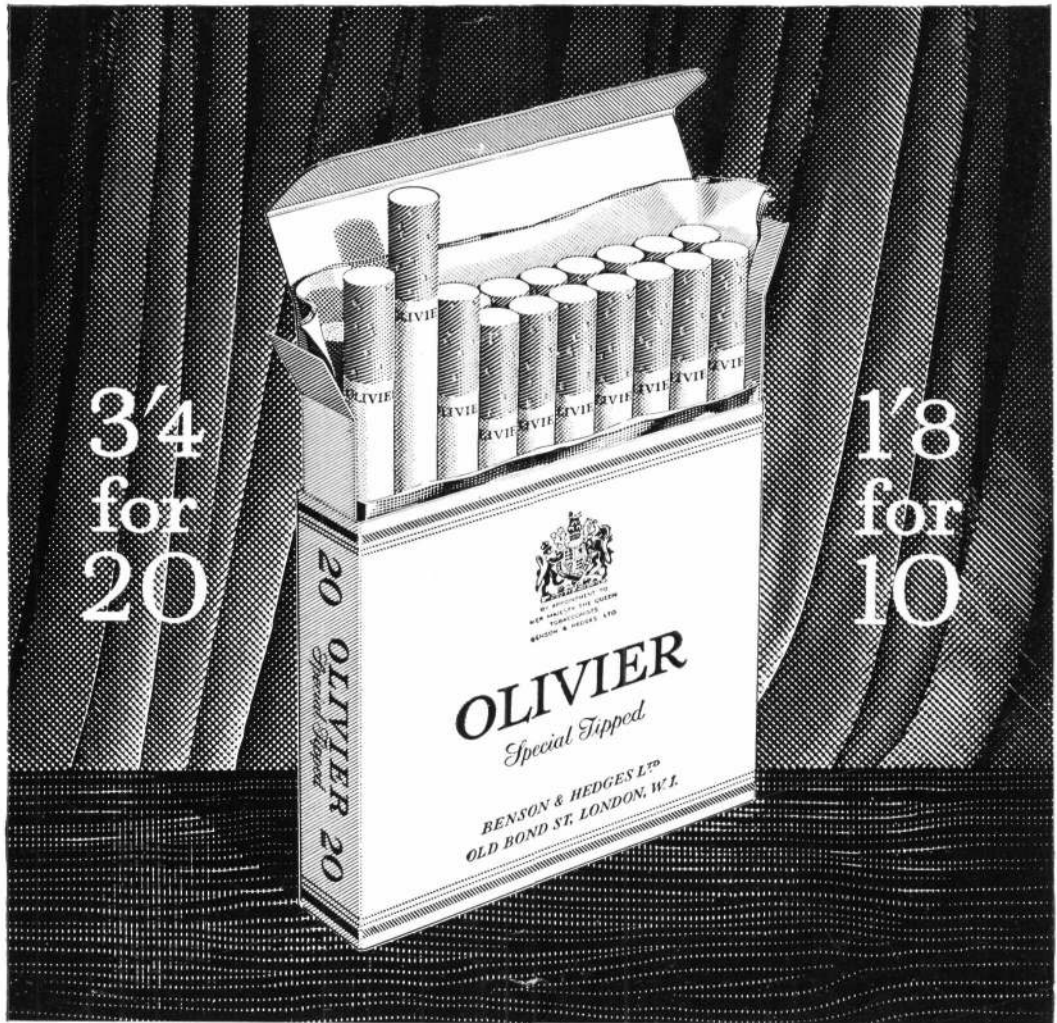
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