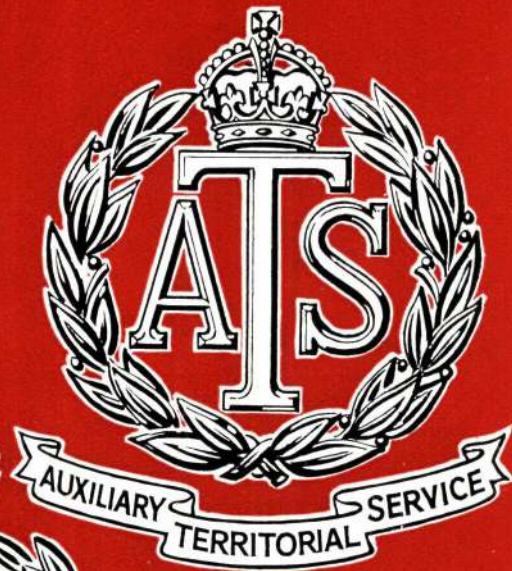
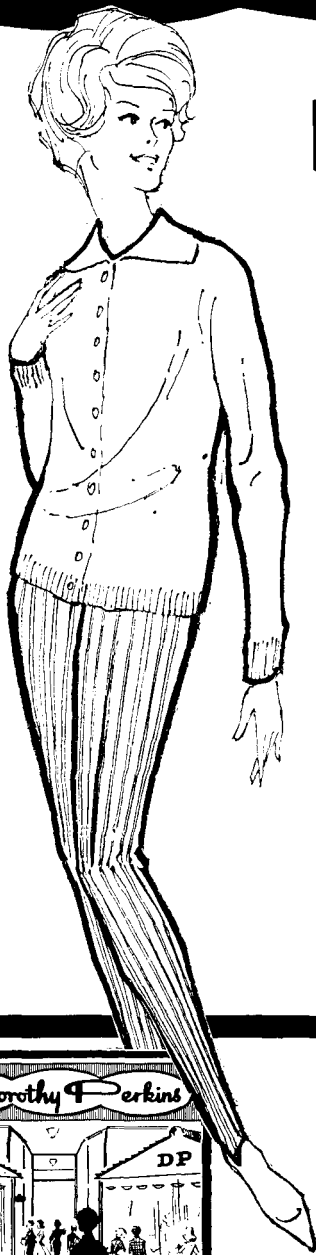


MASTER COPY

THE LIONESS



Where lovely things cost less



DOROTHY PERKINS

**HOSIERY
FOUNDATIONS
LINGERIE
FASHIONS**

BARE LEG NYLONS from	3/11
NYLON or TRICEL SLIPS from	14/11
UPLIFT BRA'S from	6/11
ALL WOOL SWEATERS from	18/11
QUILTED NYLON SHORTY GOWNS from	65/-
SHORTY NYLON NIGHTDRESSES from	29/11



Dorothy Perkins

**OF OXFORD STREET
LONDON, W.1**

over 180 branches throughout the country

Contents

	PAGE
Christmas Message from our President ..	59
Editorial	59
London Gazette	59
Christmas, 1917	60
Retirement	60
Branch News	61
Unit News	62
News of Old Comrades	63
The Hard Way to Singapore	64
Looking Back	65
Home and Leisure	66
Association News	67
Woman to Woman	68
T.A. News	69
Stately Homes	74
Correspondence	74
Officers' Postings	75
Personal	76

WRAC Association Address Book

GENERAL SECRETARY and EDITOR

(to whom all contributions and correspondence should be addressed including items for the Personal column)

Lieut.-Colonel M. S. F. Millington, O.B.E., T.D.

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

ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

**Nuvieu Advertising (Maj. E. O. Coven (Retd.))
22 Cadogan Court, Draycott Avenue,
London, S.W.3. Telephone: KENSington 8286**

CHARGES

Personal column: 3 lines 4s. 6d., each additional line 1s. 6d.,
non-members 50% more. Box Nos. 6d. Reunion notices:
Notices of forthcoming reunions where admission is charged
may be inserted at a cost of 1s. 6d. a line.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT ISSUE BY
DECEMBER 30**



NAAFI

ANNOUNCES *The New* **FORCES PRESS**

**DEVOTED ESPECIALLY TO THE PRINTING
REQUIREMENTS OF THE SERVICES**

We can undertake all your printing, speedily and economically—from a Service history to your personal stationery.

**Journals — Recruiting Brochures — Programmes
Information Booklets—Invitation Cards—Christmas
Cards—Menu Cards—Visiting Cards—Die Stamping
Letterpress—Photo Lithography**

With the latest machinery, in a new, modern plant, we achieve a standard of workmanship which cannot be surpassed. We would welcome a visit from you and the opportunity to quote for your printing requirements—large or small—we think you will be pleasantly surprised. Ask for a representative to call.

THE FORCES PRESS



THE FORCES PRESS
CRIMEA ROAD, ALDERSHOT, HANTS.
Telephone: Aldershot 21293/5



Our President

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL ON BOARD THE ROYAL YACHT



THE LIONESS

Vol. XXXV

November 1962

No. 4

Christmas Message from our President

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL

1962 has been a year of growth and achievement for the W.R.A.C. To them, and their forerunners the Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S., I send my best wishes for a Happy Christmas and good fortune in the coming year.

MARY

EDITORIAL

HARASSED and hardworking branch secretaries will soon be starting their thankless task of collecting members' subscriptions. It has been suggested that readers would be interested in hearing how their money is spent. Of the 6s. annual subscription, 1s. 6d. is retained by the branch for its own running expenses; as this only represents about half a dozen stamps, members who pay up without a reminder help to keep their accounts out of the red. Eventually, 4s. 6d. from each subscription comes to the Association office. Only 3s. of this is credited to *The Lioness*, although it actually costs 1s. a copy to produce and dispatch. The remaining 1s. 6d. has to be stretched to cover all other expenses, including forms, postage, stationery and such varied items as the Association Cross for the Field of Remembrance, and subsidising the Grand Reunion when it fails to pay its way.

The life membership subscription of £6 is based on an expectation of 20 years. In this case, the whole sum is sent to headquarters so that it can be invested as capital. Branches claim 1s. 6d. capitation fee each year for all their life members, and the auditors credit 3s. to *The Lioness* account annually for 20 years; after that, as far as they are concerned, life members are defunct. As old soldiers never die, we are steadily acquiring an increasing number of dead readers.

The whole of the serving other rank's subscription of 1s. 6d. is sent to headquarters. This does not, of course, include *The Lioness*, but these are ordered in bulk and sold by the unit at their cost price of 1s. each.

THE problem of where to live and how to make ends meet on a small retirement pension is a

very real worry to many of our older members. A solution to this difficulty for some of them may be found at "Craigston," Knaphill, near Woking, Surrey. This convalescent and holiday home for Service and ex-Service women is run by the Forces Help Society, and accommodation there is now to be made available for four retired ex-Service women as permanent residents. Their terms are very reasonable and will be based on the income of the applicant. Anyone who is interested should write to: The Comptroller, the Forces Help Society, 122 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3. As we cannot afford to run our own home at present, we are most grateful to the Forces Help Society for this practical example of their understanding of the needs of ex-Service women. We hope that other organisations will soon be persuaded to follow their lead.

The Lioness wishes all her readers, at home and overseas, a gay and happy Christmas with good health and good fortune in the coming year.

LONDON GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS REGULAR ARMY

Lieutenant: 2/Lts. J. A. Hawtreay, G. M. Abbott, A. K. G. Toby.
2/Lieutenants: D. E. Bowman, B. A. Castledine, E. P. Daly, M. H. Paterson, M. J. Birkett, E. A. Robinson, J. P. Tyler, W. S. Gough, R. J. Puttock.
2/Lieutenant (on probation): A. J. Smith.
Lieutenant (Q.M.): A. I. Purton.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Lieutenant: 2/Lts. G. M. Butler, B.Sc., J. Z. E. Wheeler, E. D. R. Willson, D. M. P. Garnett.
2/Lieutenant: E. S. Haney, J. Gairns.
2/Lieutenant (on probation): D. M. P. Garnett, B.Sc., E. D. R. Willson are confirmed in their appointments.

RETIREMENTS, ETC.

REGULAR ARMY

Retirements on retired pay: Major S. M. Howe, M.B.E., Major G. L. Morrish.
Resignations: Capt. T. M. Spurling, B.Sc., Lt. V. G. Webster, Lt. M. M. Haworth, B.A., 2/Lt. S. M. Enever.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

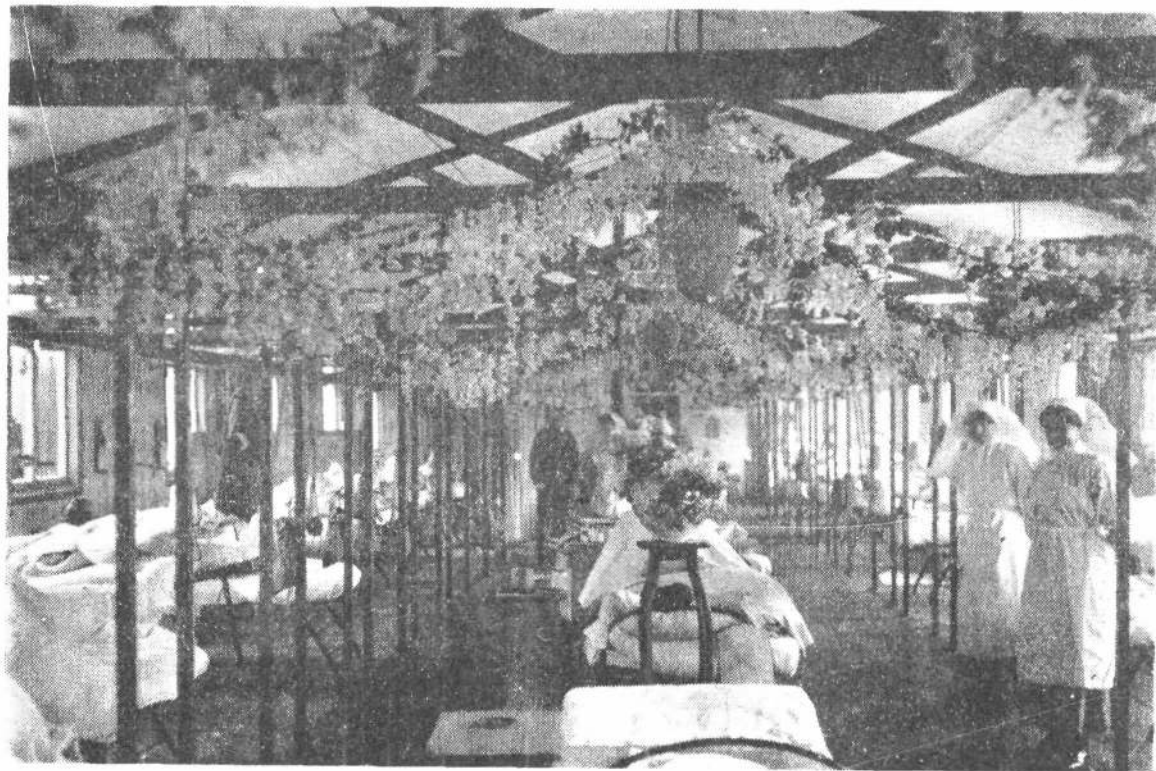
Relinquishment on completion of service: Major G. J. Gibbs, M.B.E., and is granted the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

CHRISTMAS 1917

THOSE who served in Wimereux sometimes recall their visits to the hospitals 45 years ago, and especially Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, 1917. Members of the W.A.A.C. had been in the habit of visiting the wards, by request of the Padres. Christmas Eve came, and deep snow with it, but a good choir of girls sang carols at the hospitals. At No. 2 Australian General Hospital, Capt. Davis carried a small harmonium round the wards. The brightest part of Christmas Day was the time spent with the wounded. Every member of our unit had willingly given something out of her own parcel from home, which enabled Rose Reed to fill several bolster cases, and we trudged through deep snow to distribute the gifts. The

men were delighted, as they lay smiling, and so clean, with fresh bed linen for Christmas. (Their own Christmas parcels would be up the line, addressed to their unit.) The fractured femur patients had made their ward look like fairyland, with lovely paper wistaria hanging from the wooden beams above. Fortunately, a photograph of that ward, taken by one of the staff, P. A. Peachey, is still one of our souvenirs. The nurses had given the men crinkled paper and thread, with which they made beautiful pink and mauve wistaria. After we had distributed the gifts, the sister asked us to join her for a cup of tea before we went back to our billets.

J.A.B.



Christmas at Wimereux

RETIREMENT

COL. E. SYKES, O.B.E.

COL. Eve Sykes, after a distinguished career in the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C., retired in October. She served in the ranks from August 1939 until she was commissioned in January 1942. She attended A.T.S. Staff College and subsequently held several staff appointments in overseas theatres and was mentioned in despatches. After two War Office Staff appointments, Col. Sykes took over command of 13 Independent Company and later 3 Battalion. She then became W.R.A.C. Adviser 17 A.A. Brigade, followed by a tour as

G.S.O. 2 (Mob) Headquarters Western Command. On promotion to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, she became A.D.W.R.A.C. London District, where she was awarded the O.B.E. Her last appointment was that of A.A.G. AG16.

Apart from her more military duties, she has been a very active chairman of the Army (Women's) Lawn Tennis Association both on and off the court. Col. Sykes has been respected by all ranks for her fair-minded, untiring work for the corps, while her gay personality and wide interests made her a stimulating and enthusiastic officer. She retired taking with her our best wishes for the future.

Branch News

BATH. Congratulations to our vice-chairman, Mrs. J. Mant, and her husband on the recent birth of a daughter. In August several members spent a most enjoyable afternoon at Portishead at the kind invitation of a fellow member, Miss Smith, who was there on holiday. In August, too, members and friends paid a visit to the Tropical Bird Gardens at Rode, near Bath, and spent several enjoyable hours. Much activity is now going on in preparation for a jumble sale in October and the sale of work in November. The winter programme should prove most interesting with a film show on all the past outings of the branch and the Christmas dinner looming very much nearer.

BRADFORD. Unfortunately, the secretary was ill and missed the party on July 2, but from all sources she heard reports of the very successful evening. Arrangements were in the capable hands of Misses Brett, Mitchell and Henegan, who provided a most entertaining evening and kept all members, both young and old, on their toes from beginning to end. They twisted, jived, sang songs, and had a bingo session. The "slap up" supper is still being talked about, much to the distress of the secretary, who is on a strict diet. The branch closed after the party until September 24, when the secretary was welcomed back and said how very much she appreciated the kindness of members during her incapacity. Her room had at times resembled a bower of flowers, and she had had numerous visitors and gifts, and get well cards, which she humbly acknowledged, and was pleased to report she is much better. Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Hemms, Mrs. Broughton, and Mrs. Bottomley, who have all suffered personal bereavements. Mrs. Hemms is hoping to fly out to Mombasa for Christmas, and to spend some months with her son and his family, and Mrs. Stock is expecting to go out to her family in New Zealand. Mrs. Ross has had a period in hospital, but is now convalescent.

BRIGHTON. The branch has been very active this year, starting off with our annual dinner at the Bedford Hotel. This was a very pleasant evening, and included an after-dinner film show given by the Sisters of St. Mary's Dower, a home at Clayton for elderly people, where one of our members is living. Arising from this we were invited to give a musical afternoon at St. Mary's Dower for the residents, and they thoroughly enjoyed singing the old time songs. We have had several coach trips in and around Sussex, as well as our usual monthly meetings. One of our members is at present on a three months tour of America, so will have plenty to tell us when she returns. We shall be very sorry to lose Mrs. Gibson, who will be returning to New Zealand in September after a two year visit to this country.

BRISTOL. There will be no meetings in December and January, as it has been found

that these months are either foggy or the roads icy. Portland Square is not an easy venue under these conditions, especially for members living outside Bristol. The annual general meeting will be held in February, and the programme for the coming year will be arranged. When the branch visited our president's home, Mrs. R. Bernays, J.P., last June, a presentation was made to Miss I. Morgan (A.T.S.) in recognition of her valuable work as treasurer for over 10 years. A quarterly meeting and bring and buy sale was held in September.

HARTLEPOOLS. Although attendance at our July and August meetings was not good, we feel it is worth holding them in order to keep the branch going, and we do urge all our members to try and come along as often as they can. At the July meeting the raffle was given by Mrs. Douglas and won by Mrs. Russell. We had a good attendance at the September meeting, members looking and feeling better after their holidays. The raffle was given by Mrs. Jewell and won by Miss Denham. We were glad to see Miss Hogg and also Mrs. White, whose old friends from the York Branch will be pleased to hear of the safe arrival of a son in July. Cards and letters with sincere good wishes were sent to Mrs. Sawkhill after her major operation in the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne. We do earnestly hope that all her pains and ills are now over, and that she will soon be enjoying life to the full with her husband and two children. We are making a few shillings each month with our small raffles—the prizes being given by members. The money goes into a private welfare fund for the purchase of Christmas gifts to our less fortunate friends.

HEADQUARTERS AREA. Your secretary feels slightly ashamed to report that from mid-July till September she saw not a drop of rain, and for the first time in many visits to Majorca, found the heat excessive. It seemed almost unfair when letters arrived reporting weather at home. She would have liked to send lovely coloured postcards to all H.Q. area branch correspondents, but this was not practical, and in the end they were sent only to overseas members. She hopes they arrived safely and that no excess postage was claimed. Spanish stamp sellers are a little vague about postage rates for abroad. March 1963 and the reunion are not so very far away, so will all members watch the next issue of *The Lioness* carefully, as it is hoped to repeat last year's lunch on, it is trusted, a slightly larger scale.

LONDON. It is regretted that no branch notes appeared in the August issue, but the writer was preparing for a wonderful holiday in Yugoslavia, and the notice was overlooked. However, members have met regularly and we have had various talks by Miss Martin, Miss Druitt, and Col. Crawley, who gave a very interesting account of her work. A representative of V.P. Products told us of the manufacture and brought free samples of the wine they produce; this was voted by all as a very successful evening. As a complete contrast we had a film and talk by United Dairies—but no free

samples! In May, the boys of the St. Barnabas Church Choir, Sutton, entertained us; we also had a short tap dancing number by a little girl. Quite an enjoyable evening, but it was regretted that more children could not have come to display their talents. The river trip arranged for July unfortunately had to be cancelled because of the very bad weather. We are now looking forward to our theatre outing, on September 20, when about 25 members will be visiting the Mermaid Theatre.

MANCHESTER. Branch meetings are now being held on the first Monday of each month at the T.A. Centre, 215 Upper Chorlton Road, instead of in members' homes as advertised in the *May Lioness*.

NORFOLK. Summer monthly meetings have been a little more interesting than usual. Miss Turnbull, an Ilford branch member living for a short time in Sheringham, has attended the meetings. Miss Harvey, a London branch member staying in Sheringham, was present in August. Her previous attendance was in 1929, when the late Miss Ireland paid us a visit. Mrs. Robinson, staying in Sheringham in September, also attended the meeting. At one time, she was a member of the branch. Her home is in Dudley, Worcestershire.

OXFORD. Twelve members of the branch attended the Southern Command Area reunion at Guildford. The weather was not good, but we all enjoyed the reunion and are grateful to the Salisbury Branch for all they did to make it such a success. After attending the reunion, Oxford Branch had a very kind invitation to visit the new home in Aldershot of two of our members—Sgt. Beuzeval and Miss J. Cleaver—this really did make the day, one we shall have pleasant memories of for a long time. During June the branch also had a trip to the U.S.A. air base at Brize Norton. This was very interesting, but the time was too short to do all we wanted to.

SOUTHAMPTON. We started 1962 with a very interesting talk by Mrs. Westwood of the local branch of S.S.A.F.A., and in the early spring Miss Tutton, of the British Leprosy Relief Association, came to speak to us on the good work done for this worthy cause. Unfortunately, due to the very cold weather, we were a small gathering, but all of us present found it a most interesting and enlightening talk. Our annual dinner was held during April, and quite a number of members attended. Our guest speaker, Miss E. Sandell, a local historian, gave a very lively after-dinner speech on Southampton from early times to the present day, which we found very informative and amusing. During May we entertained members of the local W.R.N.S. Association to a social evening and, after a few games, refreshments of sherry and biscuits were served, followed by a light-hearted session of bingo, and all agreed that it had been an enjoyable evening. During the summer months we met out of doors, and September found us back at the Blighmont T.A. Centre once again for a general get-together and a chit-chat over our various holidays.

Unit News

18 INDEPENDENT COMPANY

HE. The Governor and Commander-in-Chief visited the company to say goodbye before leaving Gibraltar. His Excellency spoke to the women individually and was shown the film "July 24." A trip round Gibraltar Bay by R.A.S.C. launches was arranged for August, and 28 members of the unit hired a bus to spend a day in Malaga. The Company held an all ranks' dance on Corps Day, the music was supplied by the band of 1 S.C.L.I., and an enormous iced cake complete with the Corps badge was baked by the R.A.S.C.

The unit branch was delighted to enrol Mrs. Hine-Haycock, wife of the Commanding Officer 1 S.C.L.I., into the W.R.A.C. Association as its first Commonwealth member. Mrs. Hine-Haycock served with the Australian Women's Army Corps during the war and has taken a great interest in the W.R.A.C. In fact, the Company's liaison with the Battalion is almost too good, as three members of the unit have recently married into the Regiment.

20 INDEPENDENT COMPANY

IN view of the bad weather normally experienced in North Yorkshire in April, we decided this year to hold our Corps weekend later in the summer—the weekend of July 14th, 1962. The first—event was a fete in Hooge Lines, Catterick Camp, on the Saturday afternoon. Work had been going on for weeks beforehand on goods for the fancy stall, sweets and cakes were made, and jumble, bottles, flowers, plants, etc., collected. The morning of July 14 was not promising; it was raining! The decision whether to set up indoors or out of doors was postponed till 11 a.m., and then, despite a thick mist over the moors, we took a chance on it, and side shows, stalls, etc., were set up out of doors, and it all looked very gay despite the weather. The fete was opened at 3 p.m. by Mrs. R. B. F. K. Goldsmith, the wife of the G.O.C. Yorkshire District. The band of the Royal Corps of Signals played throughout the afternoon, finishing with the beating of Retreat at 5.30 p.m. We were pleased to have several ex-service members with us for the afternoon. In the evening there was a most successful dance in unit lines, at which part of the Royal Signals Dance Band played. The bar was run most gallantly by the unit Warrant Officers and senior N.C.O.s, with the help of some of the junior N.C.O.s, and the buffet prepared by the cooks was quite excellent.

On Sunday morning, July 15, there was a parade service in St. Oswald's Church. After the service, the G.O.C. Yorkshire District, Maj.-Gen. R. B. F. K. Goldsmith, C.B., C.B.E., took the salute at a march past of the Company. It was not a very fine day, but everyone swung past the saluting base in high style, to the Corps march played by the Royal Signals band. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants then gave a most enjoyable buffet luncheon party in their Mess, during which the Royal Signals Orchestra played, and we all relaxed and unwound after our hectic weekend over a most delicious luncheon with our many guests.



W.R.A.C.
9 ct. gold and enamel
Home £14.15.0 Export £12.15.0



W.R.A.C.
9 ct. gold and enamel
Home £7.10.0 Export £6.10.0



BY APPOINTMENT TO
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS
GARRARD & CO. LTD., LONDON

A fine piece of jewellery, artistically designed, makes a charming gift. Produced by the house of Garrard in gold and enamel a badge brooch can be a token of lasting value. Designs and estimates for gem set brooches are supplied free at your request. Please address all enquiries to the military department.

The Badge of your Corps

GARRARD & CO. LTD. *Crown Jewellers*

112 Regent Street • London • W.1 • Telephone: REGENT 3021 (11 lines)

News of Old Comrades

Mrs. E. F. Armstrong was glad to welcome Mrs. O. Austen (Q.M.A.A.C.) of Toronto, Ontario, who called on her recently.

Mrs. Banbury, of Oxford Branch, sends out a call to all ex-members of A.T.S. Allied Platoons, especially No. 5, which was stationed for a time at Cowley Barracks, Oxford, and their officers and N.C.O.s. If any of them are still about after 20 years, or more, they will be pleased to learn that Sgt. Castell, now Mrs. Skinner, is a member of Oxford Branch, and that Junior Commander E. P. Thomson attended the branch party last January. Sgt.-Major J. Holland, now married, is living in the Oxford area. Anyone wishing to answer this call should address their reply to 6 Napier Road, Cowley, Oxford.

A suggestion has been received that members of the Association who served with The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) "The Die-Hards," may be interested in accepting invitations to attend some of that Regiment's social functions. Replies addressed to the editor will be forwarded.

Miss M. Drutt was complimented to learn that any talk of hers should have entertained her cultured friend Miss C. R. Leech. Her subject

was "Sayings which in themselves are just nonsense but are most expressive."

Officers who served with T.A. anti-aircraft units may be interested to know that a reunion is to be held on Saturday, December 1, 1962, at the Victory (ex-Service) Club, Marble Arch, from 6 p.m. (buffet 10s.). General Sir Frederick Pile, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., who was G.O.C.-in-C. A.A. Command from 1939-45, has been invited to attend.

BIRTH

White. On July 19, 1962, to Lorna (née Aston) and Chalky White, a son, Peter, a brother for Elizabeth.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING LIST

	s.	d.
W.R.A.C. Association calendar	3	0
W.R.A.C. diaries:		
Leather wallet complete with diary and pencil	19	9
Leather-bound, with pencil	7	0
Plexide, without pencil	5	2
Diary refill for wallet	3	6
Corps print of W.R.A.C. recruiter	6	0
Service with the Army by Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan	3	6
All prices include postage at U.K. rates.		
Please send cash with order.		

Write to-day to: W.R.A.C. Association, Duke of York's Headquarters, King's Road, London, S.W.3.

The Hard Way to Singapore

EX-CPL. D. I. WILLIAMS

ONE misty morning in March, I stood on the deck of a Dutch passenger ship and watched the shores of England come nearer and nearer, and I knew that my adventures were, for the time being, at an end. On Friday, April 28, 1961, ex-Cpl. Coombes and I sailed from Dover to Dunkirk with our Morris Minor 1000, bound for Singapore and Australia. From Dunkirk we drove through France, Belgium and Holland to Munchen Gladbach, in Germany, where we had previously been stationed. Much to our delight, some of our friends were still in the camp and, with the permission of the R.S.M., we were allowed to spend the night there. The next morning we were off and had a very pleasant drive through Koln, Frankfurt and Munich to the borders of Austria. At Klagenfurt, we camped for the night at the International Camping site, and I felt quite nostalgic, as I had been stationed there in 1948. Crossing into Yugoslavia over the Ljubljana pass was a nightmare, as it was extremely high and, with the load we were carrying, it was dangerous to push the little engine more than we really should. Belgrade was a wonderful city, but it had a very bad camping site, and the sanitation was almost nil. On the way to the Bulgarian border we saw a cart with a bear in it and another bear walking beside it, a very amusing sight. The road leading to the border was bad and very trying to the tyres, and we were glad to travel more easily through Bulgaria. At midnight on Friday, May 5, we were almost on the Turkish border, and decided to have a snack, as the guards wouldn't be very pleased to see us at that time of night. Whilst Freda made some soup, I kept my eyes open for any unwelcome guests, and nearly had a heart attack when a strange figure with a black face appeared from nowhere; it turned out to be a Border Guard in camouflage and, although we could not understand each other, a cigarette soon made him very friendly towards us. Driving in Istanbul required a superhuman effort, and Freda gallantly obliged, because it was her car, and she was always happier when she drove it herself. Taxis drove beside us, overtook us and turned round in front of us, but the actual city is incredibly beautiful, with its white mosques and picturesque houses. Outside Istanbul we stopped at a small cafe for a hot drink, and tried to find out whether there were any sites for camping in the area. With numerous hand signs and drawing, the cafe owner waved to us to follow him, and we found ourselves in a small house, with a large fat lady, dressed in ankle length pantaloons, beaming at us, and two children peeping out from behind her trousers. We stayed the night with this wonderful family, who shared their meal with us and, as the evening wore on, the little house overflowed with friends, who came in to see the the English ladies. In Turkey, it is not etiquette to walk into the living room in outdoor shoes, and we were provided with soft slippers. The next morning, we bade them farewell, and drove on towards Kartal and Ankara. The scenery, once

more, was very beautiful, and mountains towered around us, but when we approached Ankara, the road was very bad. It began to rain and, unable to find anywhere to camp, we spent a cold and miserable night in the car. We began the next stage of our journey at dawn, and had a terrible drive to Kayseri. The road was wide, but full of ruts, and it was dusty and cold. A mile from Kayseri we stopped at a cafe for a bowl of soup. We very rarely ate at cafes, our main diet being porridge and a boiled egg and packet soup at night, but, as we had had such a wretched night, we decided to spoil ourselves. Our next town on the map was Sivas, and this desolate countryside reminded me vaguely of the mud hutted area of Egypt. How we ever crossed the mountain ranges from Sivas to Susehri, I'll never know; I thought we were on the top of the world, and the poor engine positively panted when it reached the highest mountain of all. To make matters worse, we ran into a terrible thunderstorm on the way down, and crept round every bend, expecting it to be our last. One of our mishaps occurred a day or two after the storm. Driving down a road with large potholes in it, we hit a great gap in the road and dented the sump case, but what was much worse, we lost the clutch spring. After a search, we discovered it in the large hole that had caused all the trouble, and found that the bent end had vanished, and we had a twisted piece of spring remaining. Donning overalls, we brought out the handbook and, after much mechanical ingenuity, managed to make a false loop and hoped for the best. We were in the middle of nowhere, and I had visions of living like nomads for years to come. However, we started off, determined to buy a clutch spring at the next Morris depot; we had brought with us every available spare and every available medical item, including a razor and crystals for snake bite, but we had omitted the spare spring. The weather was now getting very warm, so we changed into shorts and found it more comfortable. On Friday, May 12, we crossed the Persian or Iran border, and that's where trouble really hit us. The roads in Persia are, on the whole, a death trap for tyres; you really couldn't call them roads, they are tracks covered with sharp stones, and all you can see for miles are tyres lying on the road, or cars stranded with only three wheels. We had two punctures in two days, and changing tyres in a temperature of 100° isn't at all funny, and neither of us enjoyed it. Iran was a fascinating country because of its contrasts between deserts, fertile oases and modern towns. I shall always remember the delicious glasses of milky tea we had in the little cafes; these were usually only small rooms where women were not allowed, but tourists were welcomed, and we had a very interesting conversation one day with a teacher from a school in one of the villages. One night we found ourselves among the mountains. The weather had changed and, instead of the heat of the day, it was pouring with rain and the visibility was almost nil. In desperation, we stopped at a kind of shack with a dim light gleaming from the windows, and, whilst I went in to investigate, Freda stayed behind to keep her eye on the car.

I opened the door and found I was in a kind of cave, with men sleeping on the floor and on tables, and everything covered in a haze. The few men who were still awake gazed at me in amazement, as if I had appeared from outer space. The owner of the cafe came towards me and I made signs to him that we wanted a hot drink and somewhere to sleep. He waved his arms when I said somewhere to sleep, as if to say it wasn't safe, but he provided us with hot tea, and we slept in the car all night, with prowling figures peering through the window, more fascinated by our appearance than anything else. We must have looked rather strange, with our tanned, grimy faces, old jeans and jackets, and hair all over the place. Washing facilities had always been a problem, and we usually washed in mountain streams, at the village pumps with the whole population watching us, or any water available, and sometimes it was rather brownish looking.

We entered West Pakistan, on Saturday, May 20, three weeks after leaving England, and what a country it is, almost as big a contrast as Iran. The control post was about 70 miles from the border, and it was like something out of fiction. A small community in the middle of the desert, surrounded by a large wall. The heat was almost too much to bear, and we were nearly dead of thirst. There was a rest centre, which was very comical, because it consisted of a hut, two bed frames covered with plaited string, and that was it, no means of washing, no toilets and no water at all. We were told we could have tea to drink, and potatoes, but nothing else. The food and water were brought by train, every Sunday, and the next supply was due to arrive the following day. To our great delight, the other "inmate" happened to be an elderly Irishman, who was working on a project up in the mountains, and he very kindly let us have a wash from a bucket of water and gave us a tin of sardines to go with the potatoes. We gave him some cigarettes, much to his pleasure, because he was waiting for the train to arrive with his weekly ration. We left there the next morning and drove 100 miles before finding the next rest centre, which turned out to be like a fairy tale palace: behind the inevitable high walls, we found green lush trees, a swimming pool, and an English breakfast of egg, bacon, toast and marmalade. The contrast was complete. For four days we travelled through deserts and over mountains, seeing elephants and monkeys on the way, and arrived in India, very excited and looking forward to all the glamour, but, oh dear, the heat, the crowds, the Tri-shaws and cyclists with the father pedalling away and, on the back, the mother with her baby on her lap. The Taj Mahal is an unforgettable sight, and we were very thrilled to have had the opportunity of seeing it. Two days away from Calcutta I was taken ill with poisoning, and Freda had to cope with the rest of the driving.

As we were not allowed to drive through Burma, owing to the danger of bandits, we sailed from Calcutta to Penang, a very tiny island near the Malayan shores, which the W.R.A.C., who are stationed in Singapore, frequently visit on their leaves. We travelled very expensively on a re-

spectable freighter, and dined with the captain, an Englishman. The five days on board, with wonderful food, hot baths, and leisure, made us feel new people, and we set off from the ship towards Singapore with high hopes. Malaya is a wonderful country, because everything is green and large, even the ants seem rather "crab like." The people were extremely friendly and we were very grateful to them for their help in telling us about the dangers of sleeping out at night, because of the snakes. For about 2d. we could have a large pineapple, for 6d. a massive bunch of tiny bananas, and for 4d. a very handsome coconut. We arrived at the W.R.A.C. billets in Singapore on the afternoon of Sunday June 11, having taken just over six weeks for the journey from England.

Looking Back

(From *The Gazette*, November, 1922)

The British Legion

The Association is now affiliated to the British Legion on the same footing as the various Regimental O.C.A.s. This does not, of course, preclude members from joining as individuals also. We are somewhat puzzled by a letter from Miss Douche, in which she says she has been a member of the British Legion since November, 1921. We were under the impression that women were only admitted to full membership at the Whitsuntide meeting this year, and that Miss Pink was actually the first woman member.

To Van-Dal Shoes Ltd
Norwich, Norfolk

Dear Sirs,

I am interested in your
NORFOLK BROADS wider fitting
ladies' shoes as I have difficulty
in obtaining shoes giving comfort
and a smart appearance.

Please send me your
free brochure.

NAME _____
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

ADDRESS _____
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

TOWN _____ COUNTY _____

PLEASE FILL IN AND POST TO US
VAN-DAL SHOES LIMITED · NORWICH · NORFOLK

Home and Leisure

CAKES FOR CHRISTMAS

ALTHOUGH our domesticated readers will already be looking with pride at store cupboards well stocked with plum cakes, puddings and mince meat, Christmas is a time for family parties, and entertaining friends and relations, so we are including a few suggestions for cakes and biscuits that are sure to be given a warm welcome on cold winter days.

Larne Cake

- 4 eggs and their weight of flour, sugar and butter
- 2 oz. raisins
- 2 oz. currants
- Vanilla
- Lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 2 tablespoons grated chocolate

Cream butter and sugar, adding the eggs one by one and beating well. Stir in the flour, baking powder and milk. Divide the mixture into three parts.

Add fruit and cinnamon to the first part, lemon juice to the second part and chocolate and vanilla to the third part.

Put the fruit layer into a greased cake tin, followed by the plain layer and then the chocolate. Bake for about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours in a moderate oven, gas mark four.

Timberel Cake

- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. butter
- $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- Raspberry jam

Mix the dry ingredients, rub in the butter and add the beaten egg. Divide the mixture into two parts and roll each one out to about the size of a sandwich tin. Put one part in the bottom of the tin, spread with raspberry jam, cover with the second half, and pinch down round the edges. Bake for 10 minutes in a moderate oven, gas mark four, then reduce heat to mark three and bake for a further 30 minutes.

Nutty Crisps

The success of these biscuits depends on mixing them with a little hot water instead of egg, which gives them a smooth and very light texture. These biscuits are better after 24 hours, and will keep well if they are given a chance.

- 6 oz. margarine
- 2 oz. butter
- 3 oz. caster sugar
- 8 oz. flour
- 2 oz. finely chopped walnuts
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 teaspoons hot water

Cream the fat and sugar, add the hot water and vanilla, stir in the flour and walnuts. The mixture will be soft, and the dough should be wrapped in greaseproof paper and set in the fridge or a cold larder for two to three hours to firm up. Take pieces of the dough and roll out into pencil shape with the palm of the hand. Cut into short length and curve into crescents. Put on ungreased trays and bake in a moderately cool oven, gas mark three, until firm, about 15 minutes; cool slightly and roll in sieved icing sugar.

Australian Sticky Biscuits

These biscuits should be made with sticky seeded Australian raisins, but any coarsely chopped raisins or sultanas will do.

- 4 oz. butter
- 3 oz. chopped raisins
- $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. fine brown sugar
- 7 oz. flour
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 tablespoon top of milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon nutmeg
- Pinch of salt

Beat the butter and sugar together until very soft and creamy, add the flour, spice, salt and raisins. Beat the egg yolk, add the bicarbonate of soda dissolved in the milk and vanilla, and stir into the dough mixture. This will be soft and difficult to handle, so set it aside in the refrigerator or a cool larder to harden. Roll out thin and cut into round biscuits. Arrange on ungreased trays and bake in a moderate oven, gas mark four, for about 12 minutes. Sprinkle with caster sugar while still warm.

Uncooked Cake

- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. crumbs, stale cake or biscuit mixed with a few bread crumbs crisped in the oven
- $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. butter or margarine
- 1 tablespoon warmed golden syrup
- 1-3 oz. granulated sugar, depending on the sweetness of the crumbs
- 2 tablespoons cocoa.

Cream the butter and sugar, add the cocoa and syrup and lastly the crumbs. Mix well. Press firmly into a cake tin with a movable base. Cover with chocolate icing and leave to set overnight. Turn out with care, pushing up the movable base of the tin.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

THE shops are full of exciting, but expensive, decorations. With a little time and ingenuity, something just as festive, but much cheaper, can easily be achieved at home.

The only things that need be bought are some red candles or flower lights, white shoe cleaner, glitter and bright red or silver paint. You will also need a selection of evergreens, such as ivy, holly,

yew, or fir, and any suitable twigs, fir cones, dried fern or bracken, and a container to put them in.

White shoe cleaner is particularly effective, it is easy to apply, and washes off your hands, so it is even safe to let the children have a go. Try sprinkling some glitter on the painted leaves while they are still wet. Trains of ivy treated like this or sprayed with silver paint look pretty on a polished table. Rhododendron foliage is a great stand-by in winter. Experiment with cutting away the extra leaves and painting the five or six that form a rosette at the top in bright scarlet, so that they resemble poinsettias; the result will surprise you.

Association News

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting will be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on Saturday, March 16, 1963 at 3 p.m. 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 31, 1962.

SECRETARIES' MEETING

The secretaries' meeting will be held at 11.30 a.m. in the same hall (101 Field Engineer Regiment R.E.). Members of council look forward to meeting all secretaries for lunch at 1 p.m., as their guests.

THE GRAND REUNION

The grand reunion will be held at the Rainbow Room, Derry and Toms, Kensington High Street, W.8, on Saturday, March 16, 1963, from 7 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Tickets 10s. each including refreshments. Applications for tickets to Reunion Secretary, W.R.A.C. Association, Duke of York's Headquarters, London, S.W.3 after January 1, 1963. When applying for tickets, please enclose stamped, addressed envelope for reply.

Q.M.A.A.C. REUNION

The Q.M.A.A.C. reunion will be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on Friday, March 15, 1963 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets 4s. each, including refreshments, may be obtained from the reunion secretary after January 1, 1963. Address as above. Stamped, addressed envelope, please.

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, Chelsea, on Sunday, March 17, 1963. As seats are limited to 100, admission will be by ticket only. These can be obtained from the general secretary, after January 1, 1963, and will be dealt with in strict rotation.

REMINDER

Thirty copies of the August issue were returned to the Association office. Have YOU notified your change of address?

TODAY ALL YOU NEED IS CREME PUFF



Creme Puff is the perfect blend of creamy foundation and sheepest face powder. Creme Puff is the all-in-one make-up that brings lasting beauty into your busy life. Just a touch of the puff and your complexion is perfect!

CREME PUFF BY MAX FACTOR

Creme Puff is the Registered Trade Mark of Max Factor & Co., Hollywood

Woman to Woman

D. W. HOMER

IN the summer of 1961, I was fortunate to be a member of a delegation of six British women representing different organisations to visit the U.S.S.R. This was in return for the hospitality given to a party of Russian women in England the year before, and as far as we were concerned, neither visit had any political significance. Our hostesses, the Soviet Women's Committee, had arranged a programme to suit our varied interests which was flexible enough to allow for alteration if, on our arrival, it was found to be not what we really wanted. We saw welfare arrangements and conditions of women's work in a variety of factories, visited schools and universities, saw something of local government, child welfare and other social services.

In general in the Soviet Union, factories work double shifts of seven hours each, the working week being normally 41 hours. This double shift system takes considerable planning, and, we were told, is arranged, if possible, so that mothers with young children do not work on a late shift. This would mean a young mother, starting work at seven o'clock, taking her baby to the nursery and the toddler to the kindergarten, would finish at three o'clock, having had a mid-day meal, collect the children, and would then have the rest of the day with them. Every factory we visited had, of course, factory canteens and buffets, and it is possible to buy partly prepared food which can be finished off at home. This must be invaluable when one knows that the acute housing shortage means that two, three or more families share a kitchen.

Tremendous stress is laid on health and preventive medicine. Every factory we saw had its polyclinic on the premises. At a watch factory, the one in which Gagarin's watch for "outer space" was made, with 6,000 workers, there were 17 doctors, three general physicians and 14 other medical staff, and considerable emphasis was laid, of course, on optics and the care of the hands. This factory employed 75% women and the manager and chief engineer, who escorted us round, were both women. It was pointed out to us that the assembly lines were so arranged that each girl could work at her own pace.

We were told that, at each factory employing women, there would be what is termed a social welfare committee, formed from amongst the women themselves. This committee sees that the women's rights are preserved, that the pregnant women get their 112 days maternity leave on full pay and that, if in medical opinion lighter work at this time is necessary, it is arranged with no loss of pay. They notify the children's committee at the consultation centre in the locality where the woman lives, and she is visited on her return from hospital. If a woman wants to stay at home for the first year to look after her baby, her job must be kept open for her, but only those mothers whose husbands were earning an adequate income could take advantage of this.

Great emphasis is put on the provision of nursery and kindergarten care, but we did hear that there were not enough places by a long way for all the children whose mothers wish to place them, so "granny" still comes in useful as "baby-minder." Most children from seven to 15 years join the Young Pioneers youth movement, and in the summer these groups spend four weeks or so in camps in the country. We visited two camps, both in beautiful surroundings. The children were delightful, friendly and unselfconscious and, where they knew one or two sentences in English, anxious to try these out on us. The camp outside Moscow was for 550 children and was maintained by the Academy of Science. The warden and his wife were trade unionists and the staff were volunteers, young teachers and scientific workers who were giving up some of their holiday to do this. The parents pay about a quarter of the cost for each child and the remainder, including the upkeep of the buildings, is paid for by the Academy of Science.

We attended a school leaving party in Leningrad, which was a most delightful affair. The headmistress and her three teachers of English received us and, for the first time, we were ourselves subject to a barrage of questions regarding education in England. The party took place in the assembly hall of the school and started with the presentation of medals and certificates of merit. The youngsters, like youngsters everywhere under the same circumstances, were slightly self-conscious, the girls probably in their first party frocks with stiletto-heeled shoes and in some cases with Brigitte Bardot "hair-do's" and discreet make-up. The boys were in black suits and usually red ties.

The teachers, together with a local deputy (to give a political flavour to the party) and "overseer" from the factory where the young people had been doing their two days manual labour each week during their last two years at school, were assembled on the platform. We were particularly struck by the speeches of both the headmistress and the literature mistress emphasising the importance of individual responsibility and the need to carry on the ideals they had learnt at school of honesty and integrity and always doing their best now that they were stepping out into the world. After this short formal ceremony there was a concert given by really first-class artistes. We were told that a party would go on till about 11 o'clock, then all the boys and girls, with those from other schools, would converge on Decembrist Square at midnight and would sing songs and parade the streets till about five o'clock in the morning, thus celebrating their school leaving.

We visited a Palace of Marriages in Leningrad. We were told that the idea for these Palaces came from the young people themselves, so as to give the marriage ceremony a greater sense of dignity. It was possibly also to counteract the influence of the Church, where couples would go to get married rather than to the drab Registry Office. The young couple come and make application to be married about two weeks beforehand, when a date and time is booked for the event. On the appointed day they arrive with their friends and relatives, plus photographers and flowers! The couples are

called in turn to go up to the Hall of Marriages with their retinue. This was a lovely room, white and gold with beautiful chandeliers, and had been the ballroom in this old palace of the nobility. The eight of our party were ushered in with another delegation of about 30 men to see the marriage of a couple whose permission, we hoped, had been obtained.

The Registrar and a deputy from the local district, both women, sat behind a small table with a lovely arrangement of flowers. The bridal pair, the girl in full white nylon dress, carrying a bouquet, and the boy in his best black suit with scarlet buttonhole, stood in front a little distance away. The three bridesmaids-cum-witnesses stood to one side and behind them a semi-circle of relations and friends. The Registrar came forward to the couple and asked them if they were prepared to marry each other and told them it was a solemn and important step they were taking, with new responsibilities. She hoped they would be happy and bring up a happy family. There may then be an exchange of rings, though this is not necessary. The couple and the witnesses go to the table to sign and then return to their places to receive a little homily from the deputy which, I gather, contains a reference to their responsibility to the State as well as themselves. It is all over in 10 minutes and then, after kisses all round and clicking cameras, they move off to make room for the next couple.

We spent a delightful afternoon at a home for elderly retired theatre people. This home had been the original idea of the famous actress, Maria Savina, in about 1912, and she and her husband, Anatoliy Molchanov, had given their lovely house by the river for this purpose. The age of retirement in the Soviet Union is 55 for women and 60 for men, and it appears that certain State supported homes for the elderly are based on common interests and professions. The Savina Home accommodates 200 veterans of the stage, men and women, including 28 married couples. There is a staff of 87 and they have their own medical care with three resident doctors. Each has a separate room with balcony and furnished to their individual tastes. One old lady who invited us into her room apparently had a passion for doing embroidery, and every available inch was covered with her handicraft. For pocket money they retained 25% of their pension, the remainder going towards their keep. They are free to go away at any time and then, of course, retain their pension in full. Relatives can come and stay for two or three months. All kinds of pets are allowed within reason. One charming old boy who escorted us round had played Richard III in his time, and insisted on quoting Shakespeare to us and expecting us to cap each quotation. We sat down to tea with a group of the residents who either spoke English or French and in the background of that attractive house, one felt a slight atmosphere of the "old Russia."

Besides a full programme of visits, our hostesses did not forget the cultural side. We saw two performances of the Bolshoi Ballet, the Kirov

Ballet at Leningrad, and a circus in Moscow. Of course, we visited the Kremlin, including the museum, and the Hermitage in Leningrad, and in all the towns we did a sightseeing tour, usually accompanied by a woman architect from the City Council. We also went to Moscow Radio to do a tape recording of our impressions of our visit. For this and for a TV appearance we were paid the usual fees. Everywhere we went we experienced friendliness and kindness. Our guides and interpreters from the Soviet Women's Committee could not have been more delightful or conscientious in their care of us. The committee members we met up and down the country did everything to see that our visit was a success. Wherever we were, people came and spoke to us when they realised we were English, trying out their English on us, and many spoke it extremely well. Perhaps the chambermaid in one hotel was a little exuberant when she told us we were the first English she had ever met and prefaced every remark with "my darlings."

In the factories, at official gatherings, and in general meeting of the people, often the opening remark would be "Why war?" to which our reply was "Why indeed, no country wants it." On the whole we did not often encounter political argument, but when we did, I think we stood our ground. Perhaps it is interesting to note that, amongst the official gifts we took with us was a facsimile of part of Magna Carta!

Our aim was to try and increase understanding and trust between individuals in our two countries, and for this reason we were happy to meet so many who shared our interests in such things as education, health and welfare. Perhaps such small beginnings may lead us some little way towards the path of peace.

T.A. NEWS

H.Q. W.R.A.C. YORKSHIRE DISTRICT

OUR arrival at Whitburn camp, near Sunderland, at the beginning of June, was heralded by headlines in the local paper "skirts at Whitburn for the first time." The camp was a transit camp during the first World War and has since been used as a "firing range." We were very lucky, however, to be the first occupants of the four new brick blocks, each containing two barrack rooms with drying rooms and ablutions.

Our programme was very full and varied, the weather kind as we had only one wet day during our stay. We were fortunate in having the services of ex-R.S.M. Hildyard, now a commissioned officer in the T.A. serving at Hull, who carried out the duties of camp Q.M., and Capt. L. M. C. Stone, ex 50 Division/District, now T.A.R.O., coped with the messing and, with two important jobs in such capable hands, how could we help but have a successful and enjoyable camp! Sgt. Harrison, B.E.M., and her band of cooks were soon under way in the various messes and produced the usual high standard of cookery.

Certain difficulties were encountered on a visit to Whitburn Colliery, such as crawling through very small spaces, but eventually the party emerged, "black but happy." We were fortunate in obtaining tickets for the "One O'Clock Show" at the Tyne-Tees TV Studios in Newcastle. This proved very interesting and exciting. The compere interviewed our C.O., Lt.-Col. M. Booker, B.E.M., T.D., but it was a pity that it couldn't be seen on our TV channel. The coast road tobacco factory of W. D. & H. O. Wills was the scene of another visit. This too proved very interesting, and not without its compensations, free tea and a packet of cigarettes.

The R.S.M.'s nightmare—the all ranks' dance—was a huge success, despite her desperate search for a piano. The R.A.S.C. column, camping at Blackfell, came to the dance and brought their own piano. Putting it together after it had been dropped was a pre-dance highlight—a good pianist obviously knows where to put the notes as well as play them.

The Band of 463 L.A.A. Regiment (by kind permission of Lt.-Col. K. Holmes, R.A.(T.A.)), played for our Drumhead Service, and the collection was forwarded to the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund.

We were pleased to receive a visit from our Honorary Colonel, Col. V. K. Stead, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., who presented the prizes at the Sports Day on Whit-Monday, and was entertained by the officers and sergeants. The programme catered for all ages and ranks, and no excuses were accepted. The Wakefield Platoon again were outstanding, but Cpl. Blincoe, 89 (York) Company, a very versatile athlete, carried off the Individual Cham-

pionship Cup. Whisper it not that the sick parade, next day, comprised one R.S.M. and three sergeants.

We were very honoured by the visit of the G.O.C. Yorkshire District, Maj.-Gen. R. B. F. K. Goldsmith, C.B., C.B.E., who toured the camp and visited all the training wings and Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. The A.D.W.R.A.C., Lt.-Col. E. E. Michell, also visited us on the Friday before departure and, despite the hustle and bustle, managed to see most of the women and their accommodation.

We left Whitburn happy in the knowledge that we had made many local friends and had a thoroughly enjoyable camp.

On July 14, 1962 the whole unit attended weekend training at Imphal Barracks, York. On the Saturday evening our annual inter-company drill competition was held on the barrack square, and was won by 86 (Leeds) Company, under their instructor, W.O.2 Williams.

Sunday saw the culmination of a lot of hard work on the part of W.O.2 Parker-Wade and the M.T. Staff, with the annual skilled driving competition. The barrack square changed its role and was graced by the hazards and obstacles as per the training manual, instead of the drill competitors from the night before. The Company Cup for the highest overall marks was won by 88 (East Riding) Company, and the prizes were presented by Brigadier A. K. Wood, O.B.E., D.D.S.T., Northern Command. We were also pleased to welcome again our A.D.W.R.A.C., Lt.-Col. E. E. Michell, and the D.A.D.W.R.A.C., Major J. Wilson.



**Cheerful
clerks with
their
instructor
Sgt. M. Davies**

By courtesy of the Sunderland Echo

H.Q. W.R.A.C. 42 (Lancs.) DIVISION (T.A.)

JUNE 2 to 16, a fortnight of brilliant sunshine, I saw the whole of H.Q. W.R.A.C. 42 (Lancs.) Division (T.A.) in camp at St. Martin's Plain, Folkestone, with the exception of the Independent Platoon from the Isle of Man, who had already spent a hard-working two weeks at 80 W.E.T.C., Altcar, near Liverpool. The South Coast bore up well under a Lancastrian/Cambrian invasion. In Dibgate, the tented camp near St. Martin's, were the 4 East Lancashire Regiment and 42 (Lancs.) Division/District Column R.A.S.C. (T.A.), while H.Q. W.R.A.C. shared the huddled accommodation with 3 (Western) General Hospital R.A.M.C. (T.A.) from South Wales.

The accent was on trade training. Officers' and Sergeants' Messes were staffed by W.R.A.C. cooks and stewardesses, who were in danger of having their heads turned by the kind things which were said about their work. As a mark of appreciation, Lt.-Col. M. L. D. Skewes-Cox, commanding 4 East Lancashire Regiment (T.A.), organised a flight in an Auster aircraft, names went into a hat, and one lucky member was borne aloft over the Weald of Kent while her comrades toiled over stove and table. The R.A.S.C., who were responsible for driver training, were visited by the G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command, Lt.-Gen. Sir E. Howard-Vyse, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., who also talked to the women before they spent two nights in the field on the Column exercise. A learner-driver school was staffed and trained under the direction of H.Q. W.R.A.C. P.S.I.s with the help of additional instructors from the Column. Clerks, storewomen and telephonists worked at Dibgate and St. Martin's, and contributed in no small measure to the smooth running of the camps. A large clerical school was under the care of W.O.2 Gilby, D.M., who, after years of devoted service, leaves the unit on marriage at the end of the year. The medical orderlies benefited greatly from theoretical and practical instruction, provided by the R.A.M.C.

On the middle Sunday a service, conducted by the Rev. W. A. Winton, T.D., B.A., B.D., Padre of 3 (Western) General Hospital, was held in the beautiful garrison church in Risborough Barracks. Afterwards Lt.-Col. A. R. Robertson, Commanding Officer H.Q. W.R.A.C., presented Capt. J. Swan with the Territorial Decoration, and Territorial Efficiency Medals to W.O.2 H. T. Thorne, Sgts. E. Aughton, F. Parry, M. E. Douglas, G. McMillan and Cpl. E. Forbes. Cpl. E. Wetton had received her medal on her retirement earlier in the year.

In the second week, Lt.-Col. J. Fisher, A.D.W.R.A.C. Western Command, spent a very full day in camp and had the doubtful pleasure of being taken prisoner when visiting the drivers at midnight during the Column exercise. The social side was certainly not neglected, with dances, visits to France and, amongst the highlights of a most happy and successful fortnight, the beating of Retreat by the Band of the 4 East Lancashire Regiment (T.A.), who also most kindly gave a lunchtime concert in the O.R.s' dining-room.

**H.Q. W.R.A.C. 54 (E.A.)
DIVISION/DISTRICT (T.A.)**

ON the re-organisation of the T.A. in 1961 the women of 301 East Anglian, 326 City of London and 327 County of London Battalions joined forces to form companies of 54 (East Anglian) Division with the headquarters in Colchester.

This year we have been very busy indeed. In March the H.Q. and Essex Company helped by 79 (City of London), the composite company, ran a guest weekend in Colchester for civilian women, who were invited to come and stay overnight and see for themselves what the Army is like. The weekend appealed to the B.B.C., Independent Television and the Press. One fell over their cables in the cookhouse and the clerks training room, and dodged ambulances and cameras on the large barrack square. These hazards were well rewarded by the publicity gained, as our weekend featured on three TV networks, B.B.C. sound, and in a large number of newspapers.

We met our friends at Princess Royal's Day at Kingston and the City Company produced hot dogs and rolls in the Civil Defence field kitchens. Later that day some of the M.T. members rushed off to Norfolk to take part in a 54 Division Column R.A.S.C. (T.A.) exercise and later to sleep rolled up in their blankets in the back of their trucks after the dawn had broken.

79 (City of London) Company went to camp first, with 56 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), to remote and wild Bellerby, outside Catterick and bordering on Wensleydale. To give the clerks, cooks and storewomen (who had worked so hard for them) an insight into Infantry tactics, the Brigade Commander invited the women to take part as enemy with the London Irish. No cap badges or uniform were to be worn—but warm clothing was essential for crawling around on a rain soaked moor and some comical turnouts were seen spying out their enemy, the Middlesex Regiment, from behind the low brick walls—then doubling low and running back to the Bren gunner to give him the directions of fire. Col. L. E. Baldwin, O.B.E., D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, visited this exercise and was able to do a bit of enemy spotting. Next morning, W.R.A.C. cooks, who had produced hot drinks in the harbour area during the small hours, were sporting the green hackles of the Irish in their berets.

The H.Q. and M.T. Companies went to Proteus Camp, Ollerton, with 54 (E.A.) Division/District Column R.A.S.C. (T.A.). They ran their own driver training but took part in combined Platoon exercises, a driving competition and rally. The rally was won outright by a team from 82 (County of Middlesex) Company W.R.A.C. (T.A.) much to everyone's joy! On the last day of camp, a squad went on a route march to visit "The Major Oak." This was greatly enjoyed by all, including C.W.R.A.C., who was seen emerging from Sherwood Forest at the head of her "merry women." To many of our "old soldiers" it brought back memories of training centre days and the A.T.S.

On Friday, July 13, we held a parade as a special presentation was made by the secretary of the

Essex T.A. Association, on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Essex, of certificates for meritorious service, to the C.W.R.A.C., Lt.-Col. E. A. Baker, T.D., and the Second-in-Command, Major D. G. Chard, for their contributions to the Essex guest weekend in March. At a later parade during camp, the G.O.C. 54 (E.A.) Division/District, Maj.-Gen. I. H. Freeland, D.S.O., presented two clasps to the T.A. Efficiency Medal to W.O.2 De Ros, of Essex Company and W.O.2 A. Smith, of the Chelsea Company, and W.O.2 P. Halford, the M.T. P.S.I. of Chelsea Company received her Parchment Warrant as a substantive warrant officer. We were delighted that our Deputy Controller Commandant, Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E., accompanied by Col. L. E. Baldwin, O.B.E., D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, was able to visit us in camp. It was very pleasant to talk with her, show her the training, and accommodation, and just to have her with us again.

The Essex Company asked 79 Company to back them up in the field and cook for 80 people who camped on Pebmarsh, a delightful setting on the Essex—Suffolk border. Much hilarity took place in putting up the tents and coping with the petrol burners which did not want to burn. After a few hours the camp was shipshape and an exercise took place next day in giving first aid to the injured and taking them by ambulance to a F.A.M.U. manned by 161 Field Ambulance (T.A.). Chelsea Company helped to provide casualties.

After 1 Cambridgeshire Platoon do their annual camp training at the Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre in October, we look forward to settling down to a full winter programme.

42 (Lancs.) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.).

OUR Regimental annual camp took place at Crowborough, Sussex, from May 19 to June 2, 1962. We were extremely lucky in this location since it provided excellent training facilities and very comfortable accommodation. Whilst the main camp programme was to put into practice the training we had carried out during the year, there was the added stimulus on the Regimental side since we were to be visited by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, on Tuesday, May 29. Every member of the Regiment was looking forward to this day and was very sorry indeed when it was learned the previous afternoon that owing to sickness Her Royal Highness was unable to come. However, much satisfaction was gained from the dress rehearsal carried out the day before, which in view of the inclement weather, included "umbrella drill." On the lighter side, after this rehearsal the W.R.A.C. officers and senior ranks immobilised the hairdressing facilities in Crowborough, as a block booking for 30 had previously been made for their hairdo's!

Other camp activities included a squadron outing to Boulogne, and a Regimental dance. On the day on which Her Royal Highness should have visited us, Maj.-Gen. R. J. Moberly, C.B., O.B.E., representative Colonel Commandant Royal Signals, assisted by Col. G. H. Starr and Lt.-Col. J. Fisher, respectively, C.S.O. and A.D.W.R.A.C. Western Command carried out as much of the

programme as possible. Other visitors included Lt.-Gen. Sir Edward Howard-Vyse, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., C.-in-C. Western Command and Maj.-Gen. G. H. Lea, D.S.O., M.B.E., G.O.C. 42 Division.

63 SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

FOR the first week of annual camp detachments from the Regiment joined the "Regular Army." During this week W.R.A.C. operated switchboards and teleprinters at C.O.D. Bicester, R.A.C. Centre Bovington and the Transportation Centre R.E. Longmoor, whilst the Royal Signals handled radio communications. It was with great trepidation that we approached our locations—would the "regulars" consider us a nuisance and how would we fare? We need not have worried, everyone made us welcome and we were sorry to leave at the end of the week to spend the rest of our camp at Barton Stacey. Camp, of course, was not all work. The detachment at Bicester managed a visit to Blenheim Palace, where the most interesting relic was considered to be a lock of hair from the infant Winston Churchill. The day was rounded off with supper at a nearby hotel. The wonder of Bicester is undoubtedly 16 Battalion R.A.O.C. dining room, where there are 30 to 40 items to choose from every day. The dining room has been decorated by members of the Battalion and 8 Independent Company W.R.A.C. with murals depicting the sunny south; with its orange and lemon trees and vines trailing over trellis work, it looked and felt like the Mediterranean.

The detachment at Bovington was made welcome by 15 Independent Company W.R.A.C. During our stay Ptes. Bartlett and Walker took part in the Company sports trials and Pte. Walker entered for the 220 yards and the high jump at the Southern Command sports meeting on Friday, June 22. All the W.R.A.C. were allowed to have a ride in a Centurion tank and, in spite of bruises, thought it a great thrill.

The detachment at Longmoor was visited by Col. E. W. Gibson, M.B.E., D.D.W.R.A.C., Southern Command. Unfortunately they were not able to drive a real train but operated the model railway and signal system and had a wonderful time "playing trains," and also went to the R.E. Museum, where they saw a Mulberry Harbour and other R.E. equipment.

On Saturday, June 23, all detachments joined up with the rest of the Regiment at Barton Stacey Camp for a week of Regimental and C.D. training. Squadron outings were held on the Wednesday; 1 Squadron from Reading visited Bournemouth, and 2 and 3 Squadrons from Portsmouth and Southampton visited London, where their day was rounded off by a show at the London Palladium. Thursday, being Royal Signals Corps Day, was spent in inter-squadron sports competitions and in the evening our own W.R.A.C. drum and bugle band beat retreat on the square. We were fortunate in having good weather—at least it didn't rain—during the entire period of camp and everyone returned home satisfied with their training and entertainment and looking forward to camp in 1963.

OPPORTUNITIES WITH FERRANTI IN SCOTLAND



1945
School of Anti-Aircraft
Artillery, Manorbier



1962
Radar Laboratory Office,
Ferranti Ltd.

Miss J. I. L. Whellens served in the ATS as a Kine-Theodolite Operator and part-time PTI. After a Resettlement Course in Secretarial Subjects she left the ATS and joined FERRANTI in 1947. She is now one of the top-ranking Secretaries in the firm.

FERRANTI is a name renowned in the Electronics Industry. While most women may encounter Ferranti products in the shape of the Electricity Meter in the home, the firm is widely known for the manufacture of Power Transformers, the development of Computer and Data Processing Systems, the design and production of intricate radar and electronic mechanisms for guided missiles, and many other complicated and technical equipments. The firm, founded in Hollinwood, Lancs., in 1882 now has factories throughout England and Scotland.



erranti

Opportunities in the firm exist for women in the following categories:-

Secretary
Shorthand Typist
Copy Typist
Clerkess

Hollerith Machine Operators
Comptometer Operators
Canteen Staff (Cooks and Waitresses)

Mathematicians
Statisticians
Work Study Staff
Testers
Inspectresses
Assemblers

Details of vacancies in Edinburgh, Dundee and Dalkeith may be obtained from:
Lt.Col. M. M. Gibson, Personnel Officer (Women),
Ferranti Ltd., Ferry Road, Edinburgh, 5

Stately Homes

SGT. BOOTH

WE are, in this country, blessed with many beautiful and gracious old country mansions. Their upkeep is nowadays impossible for a private family to undertake. They are, therefore, thrown open to the public who, at a nominal charge, can tour the estate and share the beauty of past glories with the present day owners.

At annual camp this year we were accorded the privilege of actually living for a fortnight in one of these mansions. We entered the grounds by a winding path which led us over a stone bridge spanning a lake, past a small chapel, and on into the courtyard at the main entrance. Weather always influences one's first impression of a place and this day was a particularly warm and sunny one. The old stone walls looked mellow and peaceful, bathed in the light of the evening sun. The main door had a wrought iron lamp on either side of it and the hall windows were of stained glass with the family tree and crests of the owners, who had come to this country with the Conqueror.

It took some little time for our eyes to get accustomed to the cool dark interior of the entrance hall. During this time, that peculiar smell of age, dust, decay and damp began to assail our nostrils, and along with the smell—doubts. The entrance hall was perhaps the best room in the house. Although barren of furnishings, it was still hung with stags' heads, and at one end had a clock, intricately carved and with a most unusual chime. However, as the Q.M. had bagged this accommodation, we picked up our bags and, following directions given, started to look for our own quarters. Six staircases, five corridors and an hour later, still carrying our bags, (did I really need all that kit for camp?) we found ourselves back in the hall. We were then fortunate enough to secure the services of a guide who, having been to Walton Hall before, was more familiar with the layout. We found that, if we kept to the stone staircase and counted 63 steps, we would be on the right floor. The counting of steps was most important, because one door off the stone staircase led to the men's quarters, a fact which caused a few embarrassing moments before we learnt to count steps.

Having dumped our first load, we were taken on a tour of inspection. I suppose in such an old building, contemporary decor would have been unsuitable, and the powers that be, rather than take away the character of such an old place, had decided to let time and nature provide their own interior decoration.

The subdued lighting, skilfully placed, added an element of surprise. We were surprised if we found our collar studs, we were surprised if we got our lipstick on straight, and we were surprised if we managed to miss falling over the fire escape. Now this may sound a little odd, because a fire escape is normally an outside stairway which leads one to safety. A stately home, however, should not be defaced by such a modern monstrosity and, to comply with regulations, there were placed, at various points, knotted ropes

anchored to the floor. It was rather a pity we had no fire practice. The sight of Baby Doll pyjamas clambering down a knotted rope in the middle of the night would, I am sure, have added a new page of history to Walton Hall.

Besides the many things of historical interest in the Hall, there were also numerous modern curios. I have never in my life seen such a wonderful and varied collection of Elsan's. Someone must have spent a great deal of time and trouble over this collection. Only an enthusiast could have done so well. It makes one realise how little we know of other people's hobbies. Of course, that isn't the kind of pastime one can take up in a council house.

The rural life surrounding the Hall was all that one could ask for. The cows and sheep grazed in and around the cookhouse and office tents, and it is worthy of comment that, rather than deprive these beasts of their natural food, H.Q. C.W.R.A.C. vacated their pitch and left the animals in peace. We shall not quickly forget our stay at Walton Hall. If any members of the W.R.A.C. are interested in organising an excursion to revisit the place, please apply to the author.

Correspondence

DEAR EDITOR,

We note with interest an article in *The Lioness*, "Lorry Driver of the Year" by L/Cpl. J. Doe, and in particular the editor's note.

We would like to add that in 1957 S/Sgt. "Cobber" Allen of F Company, 301 (E.A.) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.) won her heat but was knocked out in the finals at Coventry.

In 1958 Sgt. Jane Little of B Company, 301 (E.A.) Battalion W.R.A.C. (T.A.) won her heat but again lost in the finals at Coventry.

Sgt. Little is still serving with the present 81 (Essex) Company—54 (E.A.) Division/District (T.A.). Owing to camp dates clashing with the competition we have not entered recently.

DAPHNE CHARD,
Major, W.R.A.C. (T.A.)

DEAR EDITOR,

In Florence Day's letter to you in the August *Lioness* she mentioned her connection with Toc H and Padre Clayton at All Hallows. It would be interesting to hear of other W.R.A.C. Association members who also belong to Toc H or who are interested in the movement. I joined in 1957, and have found in my branch and district the same mixture of all types, the comradeship and sense of service that we experienced in wartime A.T.S. units. Toc H has never advertised itself very much, and many people seem to be unaware of the existence of branches (often meeting weekly) in towns and villages throughout this country and in a number of places overseas, where women of all classes, colours and creeds are welcomed.

JOYCE LUNNISS,
Bournemouth Branch.

SOUTHERN AREA

BRANCHES in Southern Area have been collecting for a new porch for the W.R.A.C. Depot Church at Guildford. Over £30 has been raised so far, and the following branches have all contributed: Aldershot, Army School of Education, Bath, 8 Independent Company, Guernsey, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southampton, Torbay and Weymouth.

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

BEFORE her recent retirement as director, New Zealand Women's Royal Army Corps, Major L. M. Knight, M.B.E., toured Singapore and Malaya, and wrote to Brigadier J. E. Rivett-Drake to say how much she had enjoyed her visit to the W.R.A.C. at Tanglin, where she met Lt.-Col. J. Henderson. She was particularly interested in the new No. 2 dress, and was impressed by the similarity in the problems of administration between our two corps.

Capt. M. B. Walker has taken over the office of director, N.Z.W.R.A.C., for the time being, until a permanent director is appointed.

OFFICERS' POSTINGS

(Up to September 30, 1962)

T/Col. J. E. HENDERSON, A.A.G., A.G. 16, War Office.
 Lt.-Col. R. D. ALLERTON, M.B.E., A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. B.A.O.R.
 Lt.-Col. N. CHRISTY, T.D., A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Northern Ireland Command.
 Lt.-Col. C. de GARIS MARTIN, A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. London District.
 Lt.-Col. A. R. ROBERTSON, A.P.M., H.Q. & Training Establishment, W.R.A.C. Provost.
 T/Lt.-Col. S. A. E. HEANEY, M.B.E., T.D., Deputy, O.I.C. Record Office.
 T/Lt.-Col. E. E. MICHELL, A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Northern Command
 T/Lt.-Col. B. M. RIDLER, C.W.R.A.C. FARLEF.
 Major C. M. L. BALLANTYNE, 3 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 Major J. BERRY, T.D., Q.(Maint.) H.Q. Land Forces, Hong Kong.
 Major N. J. COMYNE, 21C Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
 Major M. E. CRAWFORD, C.W.R.A.C. East Lowland District.
 Major E. R. DENNE, 16 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 Major R. M. ENGEL, O.C. 27 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 Major G. F. FLEETWOOD-JONES, M.B.E., R.P.O. (R.A. Field).
 Major B. I. FORBES-ADAMS, M.B.E., D.A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Scottish Command.
 Major H. GILDEA, P.S.O., H.Q. C.W.R.A.C., 42 Division/District.
 Major M. P. HARRISON, D.A.A.G., H.Q. Aldershot District.
 Major A. E. HERDMAN-GRANT, G.S.O. 3(S.D.), H.Q. School of Military Engineering.
 Major E. G. JOYNT, D.A.Q.M.G. (Works and Accn.), H.Q. Eastern Command.
 Major P. NORMAN, W.R.A.C., School of Instruction.
 Major M. E. SNOWDEN, P.S.O., H.Q. C.W.R.A.C., 54 Division/District.
 Major S. WHITWORTH, O.C. W.R.A.C. Wing, 6 Training Battalion, R.A.S.C.
 Major M. YEATES, R.A.P.C. Worthy Down.
 T/Major D. M. ATHOE, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.
 T/Major B. M. GODIN, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 Capt. P. R. BRYANS, University of Liverpool O.T.C.
 Capt. A. J. H. HODGKINSON, Intelligence Centre H/S.
 Capt. H. M. HOPKIN, S.O.III Edn., H.Q. Eastern Command.
 Capt. J. C. SWANN, 68 Company, R.A.S.C. (M.T.).
 Capt. J. E. WALKER, the War Office (Q.2).
 T/Capt. E. R. H. BAKER, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.
 T/Capt. R. A. CARPENTER, O.C. W.R.A.C. Detachment, R.A.V.C. Training Centre.
 T/Capt. V. FLETCHER, Army Team of Lecturers.
 T/Capt. H. G. MEECHIE, 23 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. (C.V.D. Marchington).
 T/Capt. D. V. PALMER, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.
 Lt. E. R. H. BAKER, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 Lt. P. A. VAN DER BEECK, W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.
 Lt. F. E. CARVER, 252 Signal Squadron, Hong Kong.
 Lt. P. E. DAVEY, 4 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 Lt. D. M. DRUMMOND, Drivers and Clerks Training Wing, W.R.A.C.
 Lt. A. P. LEAFE, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 Lt. A. E. PICKERING, 28 Signal Regiment, H.Q. B.A.O.R.
 Lt. H. L. S. PRICE, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. J. M. ADAMS, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. W. ALDERMAN, 14 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. M. J. BIRKETT, 28 Signal Regiment, H.Q. B.A.O.R.

2/Lt. D. E. BOWMAN, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. B. A. CASTLEDINE, 2 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. E. P. DALY, 23 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. J. GAIRNS, Army School of Catering.
 2/Lt. D. M. P. GARNETT, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. W. S. GOUGH, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. S. HALSEY, 3 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. E. S. HANEY, Army School of Physical Training.
 2/Lt. M. H. PATERSON, 251 W.R.A.C. Signal Squadron.
 2/Lt. E. A. PAYNE, School of Signals.
 2/Lt. R. J. PUTTOCK, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. E. A. ROBINSON, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. J. SKINGLEY-PEARCE, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. A. J. SMITH, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.

Obituary

MISS L. BOND

WE announce with regret the death of Miss Lily Bond (Q.M.A.A.C.). She was a life member of the Association, and served overseas at Abbeville, Calais and Boulogne.

MRS. I. K. CONNELL

WE regret to report the death of Mrs. I. K. Connell (née Foster) in hospital at Toronto, Canada, on June 28, 1962. Ikey, as she was known to her service friends, joined the W.A.A.C. in 1917 and served overseas at G.H.Q. 3 Echelon, Rouen, in "A" Office.

MISS K. HEGARTY

A.J.L. writes:

Many members of the association, and in particular those of London Branch (of which she was a member), will hear with deep regret of the tragic accident to Kathleen Hegarty who, while on holiday at Hindhead, was fatally injured by a skidding car. Kathleen retired from the Civil Service in 1953 after many years in the Dublin and Manchester offices. Later she was promoted to assistant supervisor and finished her service at the Central Telegraph Office. Since her retirement she had given her time in a voluntary capacity to the C.H.A. London Club, and as a staunch supporter of the W.R.A.C. Association she gave invaluable help each week in the Association office, where her quiet efficiency and kindly good nature were always so much appreciated. She served in the Q.M.A.A.C. at Boulogne from 1918-19. She was a member of the R.H.S. and enjoyed her visits to Wisley and the R.H.S. shows. She supported the National Trust and the Scottish National Trust, and had enjoyed a number of their cruises around the Scottish and Irish coasts. She leaves two brothers and a sister, to whom sincere sympathy is extended.

MRS. M. A. RATTRAY

EDINBURGH Branch regret to announce the death of Mrs. Maisie Rattray (ex-Sgt., A.T.S.) who had been a member of the Association since 1943.

MISS J. M. D. SIMPSON

WE announce with regret the death of Miss J. M. D. Simpson, a life member of the Association, who served with the Q.M.A.A.C. in France at Abbeville and Le Touquet, and was mentioned in despatches.

SERVICE WOMEN HONOURED' IN U.S.A.

THE first military monument in the United States to be dedicated to the memory of service women was unveiled in New Orleans last May. Its dedication reads: "To the honor and glory of all military women who offer their lives in the defense of the United States in the cause of peace."

The memorial was sponsored by the New Orleans Chapter of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association. It consists of a granite shaft, topped by a bronze orb, with the names of the women's services in the Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard recorded on bronze plaques round the base.

W.R.A.C. MUSEUM

A silver-plated salver, engraved with the head of Pallas Athene, was presented to the W.R.A.C. Association by S/Sgt. G. E. Coope, Canadian Women's Army Corps on behalf of C.W.A.C., Central Command, Canada, during her recent visit to this country. It has been sent to the Museum which now has a representative gift on exhibition from Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Another new exhibit is the Corps flag that was flown at the last parade of 5 Independent Company W.R.A.C. in Jamaica, before disbandment. The flag has been given to the Museum by H.Q. W.R.A.C. 44 Division/District (T.A.) who had lent it to 5 Independent Company for use during the last few months of the unit's existence.

BRANCH DIRECTORY

List of Branch Secretaries—Amendments

Gibraltar.—Sgt. Hutchings, 18 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., Princess Royal Block, Europa, Gibraltar.
Maidstone.—Miss N. Court, Flat 6, 107 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, Kent.
1 Independent Company.—W.O.2 M. Powell, Dregghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13.

PERSONAL

(For charges and particulars see Contents page)

For Sale. No. 1 Dress jacket, skirt and greatcoat. Hips 39 in., height 5 ft. 7 in. Excellent condition, under a year old. £20 o.n.o. each. No. 1 Dress hat £2 10s. o.n.o.—Box No. 10/62.

For Sale. No. 1 Dress, Cap, and Shirts, etc. Height 5 ft. 6 in., bust 40 in., waist 34 in., hips 43 in.—Box No. 15/62.

For Sale. Officer's No. 1 Dress (£10 o.n.o.) and Greatcoat (£15 o.n.o.) Good condition. Height 5 ft. 6 in., bust 34 in., waist 24 in., hips 38 in. Mrs. Hill, Southbourne, Meonstoke, Southampton.

For Sale. Officer's green greatcoat, very good condition, £10. Two No. 1 Dress jackets and skirts, size 34 in., 24 in., 36, height 5 ft. 2 in. By Weatherill. Hardly worn. £10 each. Mrs. Busher, Thickets House, Bishop's Waltham, Southampton.

For Sale. Hand-woven bathroom/nursery rugs, approximately 22 in. x 36 in. Nylon, 25s. Pure rug wool, 37s. 6d., plus 2s. postage. Formiga table-mats in stand, 23s. 11d., postage 1s. 9d.

Teapot stands 2s. 11d., postage 4d. Hand-woven 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).

Wanted. Officer's No. 1 Dress. Height 5 ft. 4 in., bust 36 in., waist 28 in., hips 40 in.—Box No. 16/61.

Wanted. Officer's No. 1 Dress jacket, skirt and hat. Height 5 ft. 3½ in., bust 38 in., waist 27 in., hips 38 in. Miss R. J. Guthrie, Hazelmere, Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire.

Administrative Officer (Captain) W.R.A.C. on consolidated rates required by Aberdeen University O.T.C. (T.A.), Powis Gardens, Bedford Road, Aberdeen. Salary on appointment £782 per annum rising to £852 after 6 years. Applicants should preferably not exceed 35 years of age, have held a commission in one of the women's services, and be interested in University life. Application forms and full details can be obtained from the Commanding Officer at the above address.

Desperately wanted, good home for affectionate female stray cat, neutered, approx. 15 months old. Very clean. Delivered anywhere within 200, repeat 200 miles of London. Also would any animal lovers like use of tiny cottage in Hampstead, London, Christmas week, in return for looking after "William," a cairn terrier, and "Pusskie" if home not found. Miss Theobald, 1 Pilgrims Place, Rosslyn Hill, N.W.3.

Bed and Breakfast offered occasionally in tiny cottage, Hampstead, other meals by arrangement, or self catering if desired. Reasonable charge. Miss Theobald, 1 Pilgrims Place, Rosslyn Hill, N.W.3.

Double room available, charming guest house. Lounge, television, radiogram, dining-room, telephone, bathrooms each floor, running hot and cold water in rooms. Four guineas each including breakfast daily, dinners at 1.30 Saturday and Sunday, tea in lounge at 4. 43 Lancaster Grove. Three minutes from Swiss Cottage Station. Buses 2, 13, 31, 113, 187. Tel.: HAM 4826, 11 to 1.

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 Drumshuegh Gardens. All ex-Service women welcomed. Special terms for serving W.R.A.C. Write for the brochure to the secretary. Tel.: Edinburgh CAL 4952.

WVS Services' Welfare need women with a liking and understanding of people for work in Unit clubrooms overseas. Age 25-45, or in special cases a little older. First tour 18 months Germany. Interesting, worth-while work. Apply SWO, WVS 41 Tothill Street, London, S.W.1.

ON PARADE! . . . or OFF

be dressed by Bernard Weatherill

Grey flannel suit

which is so much in vogue this season — impeccably tailored but showing the softer line with two vents at front and back of jacket with large self buckle. An outfit which is so adaptable for both Town and Country.



No. 2 Dress Uniform

The uniform shown above is tailored from a specially processed lovat worsted made expressly for Bernard Weatherill, and is available as an alternative to the normal source of supply.



BY APPOINTMENT TO
H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II
Tailors & Dressmakers
Livery Tailors

Bernard Weatherill Ltd



BY APPOINTMENT TO
H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II
THE QUEEN MOTHER
Livery Tailors

55 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON W1 and 47 HIGH STREET, ALDERSHOT, HANTS.



**The
outstanding cigarettes
of the day**

