



# AN T-OGLÁC

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## Contents

Vol. 2.—No. 20 (New Series). 8th November, 1924.

### A.A.A. NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Conference with N.A.C.A.I.—Dates of Command  
Boxing Championships.—Gormanston Camp  
Sports.—Cross-country Work at the Curragh.

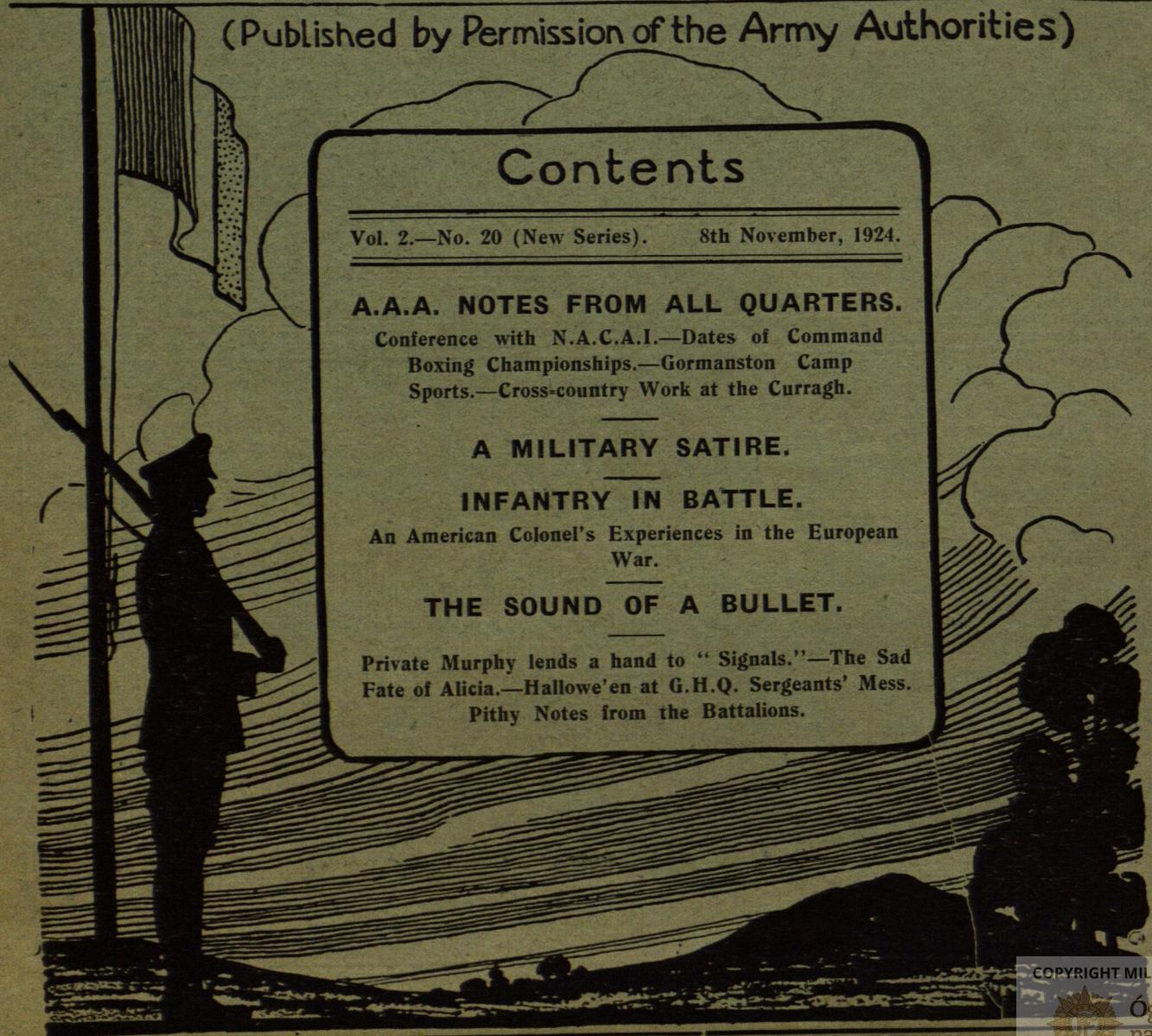
### A MILITARY SATIRE.

### INFANTRY IN BATTLE.

An American Colonel's Experiences in the European  
War.

### THE SOUND OF A BULLET.

Private Murphy lends a hand to "Signals."—The Sad  
Fate of Alicia.—Hallowe'en at G.H.Q. Sergeants' Mess.  
Pithy Notes from the Battalions.



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O'Glaigh  
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DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

# An t-Ógláic

Vol. II. No. 20. (New Series.) (Registered as a Newspaper).

NOVEMBER 8, 1924.

Price TWOPENCE.



THE SAD FATE OF ALICIA; OR, THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING.

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Óglaigh  
na hÉireann  
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

# AN T-OGLACH

NOVEMBER 8, 1924.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

**D**URING the past couple of weeks lectures on military technique and the Irish language in its relation to military duties have been delivered at General Headquarters by Major Lawlor and Lieutenant Sean O'Connor, respectively. No officer was compelled to attend these lectures, but if he was a wise man and determined to remain in the Army he made a point of attending them. The idea was excellent, and great credit is due to the two officers mentioned for initiating it. It is to be hoped that the lectures will be continued, and that they will be much better attended than they have been up to the present. To secure the latter desideratum it is imperative that more convenient hours should be arranged. It is not unnatural that an officer who has worked in an office from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. should feel a disinclination to attend a lecture on military subjects which is timed to commence, say, at 6.30, and may not conclude until after 7.30 p.m. The difficulty, of course, is to sandwich these lectures into office hours and still retain their voluntary character. So far as we can see, the only solution at the moment is to introduce the Recreational Half-Holiday to some extent at G.H.Q. and permit a few hours on Wednesday afternoon to be devoted to the acquisition of knowledge. The N.C.O.'s classes which have just concluded illustrated another phase of this problem.

**M**EANTIME the principle underlying the voluntary lectures is an excellent one, and we would like to see it copied in every Battalion. Such a preliminary grounding would be of considerable benefit to all officers prior to their departure for the Kildare School, and should serve to reduce the number of failures at the examinations. But we would suggest that the value of the lectures would be greatly enhanced and the chances of the officers at the School made even more roseate, if a list of approved text books were published and the volumes made accessible to all Officers and N.C.O.'s, either through a camp library or by facilitating their purchase by the individual student. Now that the winter is upon us the suggestion merits serious consideration, for it is essentially the season of study.

**T**HE Army Athletic Association, like every other organisation, has its critics. For the most part their voices have been heard outside the Association, and though they have protested and criticised and denounced amongst themselves they have never sought to make their views known to the A.A.A. in a legitimate fashion. For this reason, whilst distinctly refraining from expressing any opinion on the points at issue, we welcomed Commandant Cotter's letter about swimming

and chess. We hold, and we are sure that in this matter the Secretary of the A.A.A. is wholly with us, that where a grievance, real or fancied, exists, it is far better to come out into the open and have the matter thrashed out before all concerned than to content oneself with surreptitious mutterings. Discussions of this character, when characterised by proper restraint and freedom from offensive personalities, generally help to clear the air, and we shall be glad always to place the columns of "An t-Oglach" at the disposal of members of the Army who wish to draw attention to matters of general interest in this manner.

## AN CÉAD CÁT (NA JAETHALGÓIRÍ).

‘O b’é súil a éiríde istigh, an tsúil ba érise ‘na beala as páraais mac piaraís, síotcáin. Dé le n’anam, ná zo bpeicead sé éire saor agus ní h-amháin saor aét jaethalac ómí maí. Níor leis ‘Día na glóire ‘ó aét tosac na h-oibre ‘o’peicsimc.

‘O’éirig éire ‘na ‘óiseacé an tSeacéimain glóimair san na Cásca. ‘O caillead mac piaraís, agus bí éire i mbrón, aét bí a curo oibre ‘eunta aise.

‘O cóimlíonad ó sóin curo ‘á zúide. ‘O cuiread an ruais ar Seán Uirde. I-n ionad a sáozóirí, éirítear anois sáozóirí airm na h-Éireann.

Aét maireann teanga Seáin ‘nár measc zo fóil, agus is mó agus is teacra ‘e seacé n-uaire, an curo eile ‘e zúide mhic Uí Piaraís a cóimlíonad, i, éire ‘o jaotúisad, ná sáozóirí na nSall a scuadad éar sáile mar ‘o scuadad iao. Aét ‘eunpar é sin cóim maí, le congnaim ‘Dé agus uian-éoil na bpeair! Agus cé is oireamnaise éun na h-oibre seo na jaéóilze ná ógláig na h-Éireann? Cé is fearr éun teangan Seáin Uirde ‘o óibire murab é an t-Arm a óibire é féin!

Cuirge sin, éun túis a ‘eunaim ar an obair, Cumaó Cat Jaethal-góirí, agus ‘o cuiread ar síubal i mbearraic zough, ar Campa an Curráig é, tímceall trí mhí ó sóin. Le ‘eunaise éamig an Cat zo baile áta Cliaé, agus tá an Scoil Ibearnaé mar ‘eunait as an zCaé, i bpláirc an fíonn-uisge.

Nárú fáda uaim an lá ‘na mberó an t-Arm ar fáo jaosualac paí mar aét an Céad Cát, agus teanga ár sinnsear i mbéalaiú ár sáozóirí. Tá an lá san as teacé, agus má’s amlaró zur éabruig an Céad Cát le teacé an lae úo, beró obair maíe ‘eunta aise ar son na h-Éireann.

Tá buídeacas an Ceta as uil ‘o’n éornal páraais ó Concubair ‘o’n máor U. Ó Uriam agus ‘o’n máor A. Ó leaclobair ‘e bárr a bpuil ‘eunta as an ‘oerúir fíor-Jaethalac úo éun misníúisad agus curóisad leis an zCaé.

Tá a buídeacas as uil leis ‘o’n áro-Jaethalacóir úo, i, an leiptenant Seazán Ó Concubair ‘e bárr an congnaim a euz se le h-azaró Jaéthilg a cur ar na h-Óruisicéib i zCóir na ‘rioláile.

SEÓSAM Ó PAITRICE, C.S.M.

A general who designs to do great deeds must possess civil qualities. It is because he is credited with having the best intellect that his soldiers obey him.

It is not cleverness that is wanted in war. What is wanted is accuracy, character, simplicity.



## Curragh Communications.

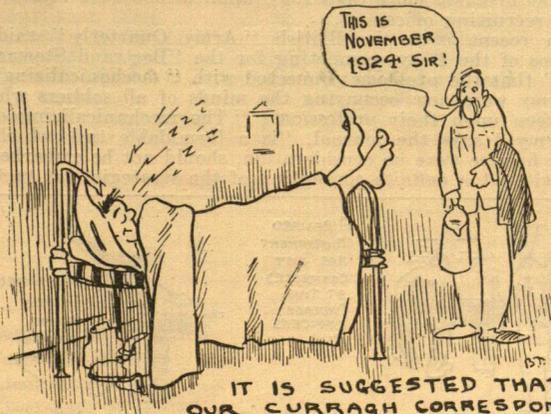
We wonder how B.S.M. James likes his new Battalion in Stewart, or would he prefer "just one more 'Course'?"

\* \* \* \*

Once again we have our old O.T.C. friends with us as the Army School of Instruction from Kildare, has joined us at Keane, and we are looking forward to the same happy soldiering as we had when last we were with them.

\* \* \* \*

Does the Sergt. still clamour for his breakfast marmalade in Beresford Barracks?



IT IS SUGGESTED THAT  
OUR CURRAGH CORRESPONDENT  
IS SUFFERING FROM SLEEPING  
SICKNESS.

Cross-country running is now in full swing at the Curragh, and, being one of the crowd, I must boast that there are some very fine runners amongst us.

\* \* \* \*

It is now noticed as a peculiar coincidence that since they had rabbit pie for dinner in the A.S.E. Sergeants' Mess, the sextette of cats that were in the habit of giving their midnight "Selections" no longer disturb the stilly night.

\* \* \* \*

In conclusion. Has Capt. B.S.C.T. yet found the whereabouts of

"LIAM."

## HALLOWE'EN IN THE SERGEANTS' MESS AT G.H.Q.

G.R.O. 77 was forgotten in the Sergeants' Mess on Hallowe'en; classes and squad drill did not worry us when we cast our eyes over the goodly array on the tables. It came as a surprise, so we enjoyed it all the more.

A very pleasant evening was inaugurated by a member singing "Ireland I Love You," to the accompaniment of popping corks and cracking nuts. He was followed by the Treasurer, who started "Fond Memories Pass Through my Mind Just Now," but, being overcome by emotion, he had to abandon the poignant ballad and substituted "Sweet Vale of Ovoca" in a very "longing" voice.

A sensation was caused when it became known that a member of the Intelligence Department was present in disguise, but the President's explanation of the stranger's presence was eventually accepted. The bottles were by this time "Forming Squad" and "Changing Direction" on the tables, and glasses were filled and emptied with great rapidity. The Prohibitionists strongly protested, but were ruled out of order by a big majority.

One member seen leaving the Mess in a very suspicious manner was followed and discovered in a quiet corner softly singing to himself. When questioned, he stated that he,

owing to the heat and excitement, could not bring to his memory the words of a certain song he wanted to sing, and had been compelled to seek inspiration from the stilly night. On returning he sang with hands clasped and a dreamy, far-away look in his eyes, "My Marguerite." But none of the other fellows had a girl of that name, and the wave of sentiment passed harmlessly over their heads. The waiter restored cheerfulness by singing "Your Coat of Emerald Green."

Someone having suggested a dance, the Mess was quickly cleared of chairs and tables, and everybody got going—even the orchestra, which consisted of a plate, a biscuit tin and a mouth organ. We danced all the known dances and a number of unknown ones which would have caused Madame Rock to gasp with surprise. Some of the enthusiasts, through force of habit or devotion to duty, introduced military evolutions into their steps with weird and wonderful results. We might have been dancing yet but our supply of refreshments gave out, and not being able to procure any more, the consensus of opinion seemed to be that they had no more business there. So it was decided to finish up the evening by singing the "Soldier's Song," which we did right heartily.

THE DEPUTY SCRIBE.

## NEWS OF THE TWELFTH.

Prior to his resignation, Captain Larkin, the Battalion Adjutant, was the recipient of a handsome gold watch presented by his fellow-officers of the Twelfth in recognition of his services in the ranks of the Irish Army—pre-Truce and post-Truce.

\* \* \* \*

A detachment from Templemore garrison helped to prevent the spread of a fire which broke out in the premises of Mr. Valentine Powell (theatrical manager), Roscrea, Co. Tipperary.

\* \* \* \*

The large audience that witnessed the entertainment held in the barracks last week were unanimous in voting it a complete success. Commandant Liam Walsh's keen interest in the welfare of the N.C.O.'s and men of the Battalion was amply rewarded by the success of this concert, for the organisation of which he was largely responsible.

\* \* \* \*

"Dawson" and Private McMarlow were among the successes of the evening. The Battalion Quartermaster (Captain O'Donoghue) gave an excellent violin selection. Volunteer Madeley sang in his best style, and all the other items were equally enjoyable. The B.S.M. closed the programme with "The Old County Down," the chorus being lustily joined in by the audience.

\* \* \* \*

Our Battalion O.C. has proceeded to the Curragh. So far as the encouragement of amusements is concerned, he has an able representative in Captain Tuohy during his absence.

\* \* \* \*

The ceremony of "swearing in" has been completed. And the other day I witnessed the ceremony of the "swearing out" of a hapless private who got on the nerves of the yardman on the last day of the issuing of the coal supply. As he departed from the yard the victim tried to heap coals of fire on the linguist's head by remarking that he left solely in the interests of peace and order.

\* \* \* \*

An Officer who had an engagement last week to proceed at an early hour to Command Headquarters, Cork, told the N.C.O. in charge of the guard to call him at 6 a.m. sharp on the following morning.

True to his trust, the N.C.O. approached the couch of the officer at the appointed hour, and solemnly announced, "Your hour has come, sir!"

## WITH THE ELEVENTH.

Commdt. Micéal Love severed his connection with the Eleventh on the 22nd ult. We hope that he makes as many friends in his new sphere as he made in the Eleventh.

\* \* \* \*

Capt. J. P. Aherne has again taken over Command. We welcome him back and hope that he liked his course of training at the Officers' School.

\* \* \* \*

We have received the following from our Boxing correspondent:—"A very interesting bout took place at the Gymnasium, Kickham Barracks, on the 26th ult., between "Battling Myles" and "Kid Donal." The Gymnasium was packed, and the bout, which consisted of six 2-minute rounds, was refereed by the trainer of Pakey Mahoney. "Battling Myles" forced the fight for the first three rounds, making good use of his left, whilst his footwork was remarkably good. In the fourth round Donal reversed the process, and the climax came in the sixth round, when "Myles" was beaten to the ropes. Kid Donal was declared the winner on points.

\* \* \* \*

Why does a certain N.C.O. particularly like the word cashier?

\* \* \* \*

Isn't there great anxiety to know who "Fear Beag" is?

\* \* \* \*

Who is the Officer that suggested taking unto himself a partner as a relief from Income Tax?

\* \* \* \*

We heard a heated conversation lately about "Lofty" and a "wedding." Searching inquiries failed to find out in what capacity he attended. Why was he christened Lofty?

\* \* \* \*

One of the readers of our notes has pointed out that an error appeared in the last issue. He states that "The Colleen Bawn" should have read "The Colleen Bawn is not dead at all." We would feel grateful if a correction appeared in the next issue, as the "Honour of the singer is at stake." (We don't know exactly what it means, but here it is.—Ed.)

## MILITARY SERVICE PENSIONS ACT, 1924.

DEFENCE ORDER No. 59. Issued under date 27th October, reads as follows:—

1. The attention of all concerned is directed to the fact that the above-mentioned Act, which makes provision for the payment of pensions to certain members and former members of the National Forces or Defence Forces, prescribes as essential conditions that an applicant must have:—

- Rendered active service in Ogligh na h-Eireann, or the Irish Volunteers, or the Irish Citizen Army, or Fianna Eireann, or the Hibernian Rifles, during the week commencing the 23rd April, 1916, or throughout the period from the 1st April, 1920, to the 31st March, 1921, or throughout the period from the 1st April, 1921, to the 11th July, 1921. *And in addition must have*
- Served in the National Forces or Defence Forces of Saorstát Eireann at any time subsequent to the 1st day of July, 1922, and prior to the 1st day of October, 1923.

2. An Officer or a soldier at present serving may apply through his Commanding Officer on or before the 1st March, 1925, on the prescribed form of application, M.S.P.1.

3. Copies of Form M.S.P.1 may be obtained by Commanding Officers from the Officer i/c Personnel, Adjutant-General's Department.

4. Forms when completed will be sent by Commanding Officers to the General Staff Officer i/c Staff Duties in the case of applicants who are Officers, and to the Officer i/c Personnel in the cases of Non-Commissioned Officers and men. The General Staff Officer i/c Staff Duties and the Officer i/c Personnel will transmit the forms to the Secretary, Military Service Pensions Board, Department of Defence, Dublin, attaching in each case a certificate on Form M.S.P.6, of the applicant's service in the National Forces or Defence Forces of Saorstát Eireann. Copies of the necessary form of certificate (M.S.P.6) will be supplied by the Military Service Pensions Board.

5. The Military Service Pensions Board, in their absolute discretion, may require an applicant to appear before them in person at Dublin or any other place appointed by the Board, and to produce any witnesses or persons named as reference to discharge the onus of proof which, under sub-section 5 of section 3, rests upon the applicant, or may, in their absolute discretion in any particular case, require such applicant to produce such evidence by Affidavit.

6. Every pension awarded under the Act commences as from the 1st day of October, 1924, or the day of the applicant's discharge from the National Forces or Defence Forces, whichever of those days shall be the later.

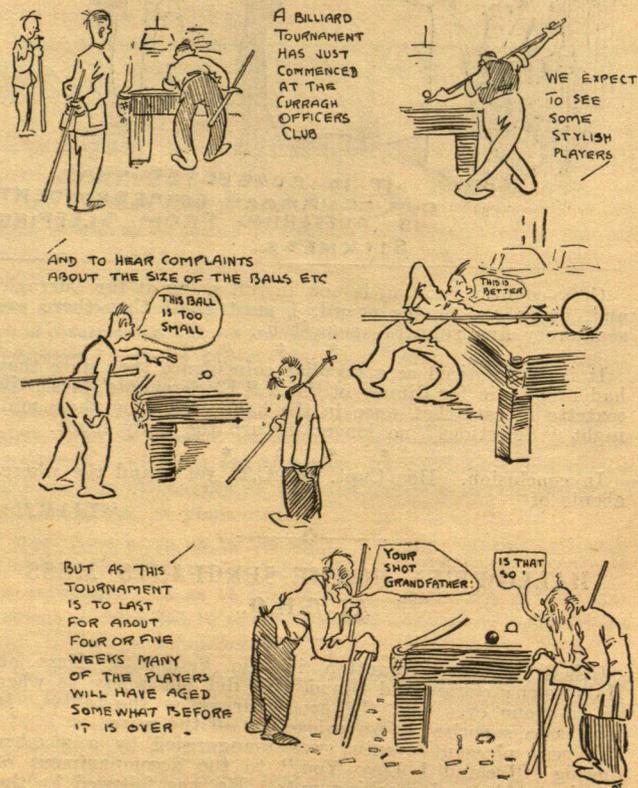
## "MECHANICALIZING" AN ARMY.

The process of what is known as "mechanicalizing" the British Army started on Wednesday, 15th ult., with recruiting for categories B and C of the supplementary reserve. This force, which will be 20,600 strong, is being created to provide on mobilisation for skilled men in almost every trade for the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Corps of Signals, Tank Corps, and Ordnance Corps.

The force will, in effect, be an Army Corps without military duty, unless mobilised, but with annual pay from £8 to £20. Recruits will not have to give up their present occupations, and if required to attend an annual camp will receive Regular Army pay and a bounty.

On the first day more than 2,000 applications were received at the recruiting office.

In a recent issue the British "Army Quarterly" said, *a propos* of the essays competing for the "Bertrand Stewart Prize," that the problems connected with "mechanicalizing" the Army were now occupying the minds of all soldiers who were keen upon their profession. "The mechanicalizing of the Army," says the journal, "is a formidable task which, even if finance were no consideration, should not be embarked upon without a definite conception of the strategic and tact-



ical results of so far-reaching a change, nor without a thorough and careful examination and testing of the most suitable types of machines required. A complete transformation in our existing military organization is probably inevitable in the course of time, but, in the nature of things, it must be gradual—it cannot, indeed it ought not, to be completed in an hour."

In analyzing the deductions of the essayists, the same periodical says it is essential that military leaders should be supplied with the best mechanical contrivances for conveying their troops speedily for considerable distances and also for supporting them in the attack, but that this does not necessarily imply that the whole Army should be carried

(Continued at foot of Col. 1, Page 5.)

## G.H.Q. CHESS CLUB.

## Renewal of Activities—Opening of Inter-Club Tournament.

The Inter-Club Tournament commenced on Friday, 24th October, in No. 1 Room, G.H.Q., at 6 p.m. The following is the list of entries and Handicaps:—

Commandant Cotter ... 0	Capt. Mervyn ... 12
Lieut. Sean O'Connor ... 3½	Colonel O'Connor ... 14
Captain Nolan ... 3½	Sergeant Calnan ... 16
Lieutenant Daly ... 3½	Captain Moriarty ... 16
Commdt. Guilfoyle ... 4	Corporal O'Connor ... 18
Major A. Lawlor ... 5	Sergeant Myers ... 18
Commdt. Egan ... 6½	Sergeant Loughrey ... 18
Mr. Galvin ... 8	Lieut. Kennelly ... 20
Commdt. Donoghue ... 12	Captain Clancy ... 20
Capt. J. J. Burke ... 12	Lieut. Moore ... 20

The results to hand are as follows:—

NAME	Games Played	No. Points (including Handicap)
Sergeant Myers ... ..	5	26
Corporal O'Connor ... ..	8	26
Lieutenant Moore ... ..	2	22
Lieutenant Kennelly ... ..	2	22
Captain Clancy ... ..	1	20
Sergeant Calanan ... ..	5	20
Captain Burke ... ..	4	18
Captain Mervyn ... ..	4	18
Sergeant Loughrey ... ..	1	18
Captain Moriarty ... ..	5	16
Commandant Donoghue ... ..	2	14
Colonel O'Connor ... ..	0	14
Commandant Cotter ... ..	7	12
Mr. Galvin ... ..	2	12
Captain Nolan ... ..	4	9½
Commandant Egan ... ..	4	8½
Major Lawlor ... ..	2	7
Lieutenant O'Connor ... ..	3	5½
Commandant Guilfoyle ... ..	2	4
Lieutenant Daly ... ..	—	3½

(Concluded from Col. 2, Page 4.)

in vehicles as some mechanical enthusiasts would have us believe.

There would appear to be two distinct problems to be solved—that of "mechanical transport" and that of "mechanical support." With regard to the former, the weight of expert opinion, according to the "Army Quarterly," is undoubtedly in favour of track or semi-track vehicles, because of their ability to go across country. "But," in the opinion of the journal in question, "until this form of vehicle is more generally adopted by the commercial community, it will be difficult for the Army authorities to rely solely upon it for military purposes—for the simple reason that, owing to financial considerations, it would be impossible for them to maintain a sufficient reserve in the event of a general mobilization. With regard to 'mechanical support,' the points for decision are how best to combine the employment of infantry in action with fast-moving tanks and guns, and how far it is wise to replace infantry by mechanical weapons."

## THE PRESIDENT AND THE ARMY.

## Western Command's Tribute to General O'Duffy.

The Dublin morning papers of the 4th inst. contain reports of a banquet to General Eoin O'Duffy by the Officers of the Western Command. It is stated that the General was accompanied by the President and Mrs. Cosgrave, and that Major-General McKeon presided.

In replying to the toast of "The President," proposed by Major-General McKeon, Mr. Cosgrave is reported to have said:—"Upon each and everyone of you, however junior or however senior your rank may be, rests a very serious responsibility now at the re-birth of the nation. You represent the valour of the State and of the nation; to you its citizens must look for example in courage, in character, in industry, and in everything that goes to make example for the young men of the State. This is your responsibility; it is a big one; it is a serious one; it is one for which great men gave their lives to make possible that which they were not successful in achieving in their time, but which has been achieved in ours.

"While General McKeon was speaking so fluently to us I was wondering if when he took the field he had had dud troops and poor officers how he would have managed the situation. But he had not got dud troops and poor Officers, and consequently he has been able to make good. In my case I have not had dud Ministers and have not had a dud Parliament, and if we have not made good up to this we are making good (applause).

"I was really brought down here," the President went on, "to do honour to General O'Duffy; it is a particular pleasure to me to be here to-night to participate in the welcome to him and to pay a tribute to the great work he has done and to the fine example he is to the two great forces we have in this country—the Army and the Civic Guard" (applause).

General O'Duffy, replying to the toast of "Our Guest," also proposed by Major-General McKeon, is reported as saying that perhaps in no other Command had he so many friends as in the Western Command. It was a long time since he had first heard of General McKeon. The deeds of General McKeon and his Volunteers during the struggle for freedom had been an inspiration to those in the North engaged in the same struggle.

When there was a serious crisis in the country a couple of years ago General O'Duffy said he put certain matters before the Officers of the Army, and he told them that they would not be let down. He hoped no Officer present could say that he had deceived them. The policy outlined by General McKeon and himself on that occasion was their policy that night, said General O'Duffy.

He felt rather embarrassed when asked by the Government to take over control of the police force. He felt sorry at leaving the many genuine friends he had met in the old Volunteers, but he found afterwards that he was not leaving them, and he was very happy to be placed in a position in which it was possible for him to provide an honest and decent livelihood for almost 5,000 of those brave Volunteers who had sacrificed everything for their country.

He came back to the Army on the invitation of the President and Government, and the success which had attended his efforts was largely due to the fact that the President was Minister for Defence. They had had a little crisis then, but it had been successfully surmounted, and no Officer or soldier who stood loyal to the State had been let down. (Applause.)

## LIEUTENANT RESCUES BOY FROM LIFFEY.

A plucky rescue from drowning was effected by Lieutenant Jack Lynch, who, passing along Sir John Rogerson's Quay, and observing a boy named Brennan in difficulties in the Liffey, immediately jumped into the water and brought the lad safely ashore. This is the second occasion on which Lieutenant Lynch has rescued people from drowning.

## INFANTRY IN BATTLE.

### Experiences of a Colonel of American Infantry in the European War.

No incident of battle can be considered trivial nor can any commander make his plan so completely fool-proof that something unforeseen may not upset it. The conditions that confront an officer in action must be dealt with by quick decisive judgment, and he must be prepared to take advantage of any unexpected development favourable to his purpose, as well as to offset promptly untoward events that favour the enemy.

My own experience during the first day or two of the Meuse-Argonne offensive illustrates these points.

My regiment marched into an old trench system on the evening of September 25 preparatory to taking part in the attack on the 26th. Following the terrific barrage that morning we moved to attack at the zero hour; one battalion in advance, one in support, the third forming a part of the division reserve. A dense fog enveloped the entire country, so dense in fact that one could not distinguish objects more than a few yards away. The line of direction of the attack had been carefully given in orders and the march was made by compass bearings. The general plan contemplated that the regiment would push through to the corps objective and there await orders unless the division on its right or left was abreast, in which case it would continue the advance. The battalion in support, following the attacking battalion, was to pass it at a point about midway between the jump-off line and the corps objective, assuming the rôle of the attack, the other to support.

The attack battalion found our barrage had demoralized the German forces to a high degree and our advance seemed to be a surprise to them. They were in confusion and acting without good direction. As we moved forward the fog began to lift, enabling us to discern objects at a greater distance and with more clearness. Small parties of Germans appeared at various points and surrendered.

#### With the Advanced Battalion.

Shortly after the jump-off I left my C. P. to join the advance battalion. I felt impelled to do this for three reasons: The movement was to be very rapid, there was a dense fog, and there was to be a "leap-frog"—always a difficult manoeuvre. After proceeding for some distance I overtook a company of the support, inquired as to the position of the attack battalion and was told it should be a short distance ahead. Going for some distance with this company—which was taking prisoners all the time and sending them to the rear with small guards—I reached a point where a considerable number of Germans occupied a position on the left, apparently in more or less confusion. I sent the captain with a platoon to investigate and with the remainder of the company moved forward, presently passing over the crest of a ridge to find myself in contact with a line of trenches and dugouts. Some small groups of Germans appeared and offered surrender, but within a very short time I saw that more were there than would have been possible had the assault battalion passed over this region. The Germans soon began to collect their wits. Small parties in retreat were talking and pointing to our soldiers. The size of the groups emerging from the dugouts was increasing. At one point to my left front I observed what appeared to be a German officer effecting a formation. Of course it was manifest to them by this time that my force was greatly outnumbered. At once I began to get my extended line into cohesive shape, which was more or less difficult for the reason that it had to be done without unduly alarming my men. Whether the soldiers sensed the seriousness of the situation I do not know, and, obviously, I made no inquiries. Any indication of a lack of confidence on our part would, of course, result in our immediate destruction.

#### A Very Critical Position.

The sensations which I experienced at this time were far from pleasant. I realized that somehow, in the fog, we had pushed on in advance of the assault battalion. Whether or

not it would arrive in time to extricate us from our predicament only time (and the lack of initiative on the part of the Germans) would determine. For the colonel of a regiment with two of his staff officers to be killed or captured in a situation like this was embarrassing—to say the least. But while these unpleasant thoughts were running through my mind the assault battalion appeared on the crest in our rear. At once the aspect of the offensive changed. The Germans in the distance continued their retreat and the trenches in our front were soon mopped-up. Many prisoners and much material were taken. In a moment we had passed from the gloom of imminent failure to the elation of victory.

Infantry combat certainly offers a broad and fertile field of experience in "the great adventure." Shortly before his death, General Sherman, an artillery officer, told a group of West Point cadets: "Young men, your highest aspirations and ambitions as soldiers will be met best in the Infantry."

In affairs of this sort, details that in themselves are trifling may become matters of extreme importance. When I left the regimental C. P., sending my staff to support the battalion, the shelling of the German guns was dying out. Our steel helmets were so heavy and uncomfortable that I handed mine to my orderly, intending to put it on again when needed; during the course of our advance he became separated from me, and in the activity of the battlefield I quite forgot about the helmet. When I arrived at the halt position, one of my officers called my attention to the fact that I did not have my helmet on, and as we were under quite heavy shell fire at the time, I immediately got one. I heard afterwards that the men were quite impressed with the fact that the colonel was in the front line without a helmet, and I never took occasion to explain that its absence was due to accident and not design. The fact that I did not wear it was an element of value to morale.

#### Few Officers among the Prisoners.

Among the prisoners we took at the ridge-crest, and throughout the remainder of the day, I was struck by the absence of officers. This to my mind shows one of two things—either the low state of morale of the German Army or a false doctrine of combat which would seek to economise officers at the expense of efficiency in battle. There seemed to be lack of proper direction on the part of the Germans. A resolute commander acting promptly would have wiped out my detachment and possibly changed the entire engagement in this part of the field.

From the point where I was joined by the assault battalion I continued with it, and about 9.30 the intermediate defensive position was reached. Here the support battalion was to take the rôle of the attack, but up to this time I had received no reports from it. It did not come in view, nor could I get in touch with it by runner. I, therefore, ordered the assault battalion to advance, and went with it. To have delayed at this point and waited for the arrival of the support battalion would probably have jeopardised success, for any hesitation would have resulted in immediate organization and strengthening of the German resistance. For these reasons I decided to go ahead with the original assault battalion.

We pressed forward rapidly, suffering severely, but taking many prisoners, cannon and machine guns. A captured German sergeant-major, who talked excellent English, stated he was positive that their forces in the vicinity were endeavouring to retreat. We arrived at the corps objective about 11.30 a.m., where, in accordance with orders, we halted. Here we had not been in position more than half an hour when the enemy, seeing the advance had been arrested, halted their retreating troops and artillery and began shelling our position. A horse battery in plain view, but beyond effective rifle range, wheeled about, advanced toward us, went into position and opened on us. From then until night we were subjected to heavy artillery and machine-gun fire. It was very fortunate that the assault battalion had continued its advance from the intermediate halt without awaiting the support battalion, for this did not reach the corps objective until about dark.

### Interesting Battle Lessons.

The day's experience of the support battalion affords several interesting battle lessons: this battalion, in the fog of the morning, had deviated to the left of its proper line of march and in so doing had run into the flank of a German trench system in the sector of the division on our left. These trenches were strongly held with machine guns which were preventing progress by this division. Our battalion became so involved that it could not capture the trenches nor break away in time to comply with its battle order. Thus it failed to appear at the proper time to take on its rôle as assault battalion though it undoubtedly performed a very useful task, taking many prisoners and machine guns.

In the opinion of some of its officers it could have eventually dislodged the entire enemy force. It reached a point where it outflanked the Germans. The captain of the leading company, recognising the importance of his position, and believing the enemy could not hold on if an attack were pushed, presented the matter to the battalion commander and asked to be allowed to continue the action. The major stated that his orders required him to push forward to the relief of the assault battalion. To this the company commander replied that so much time had already elapsed that it would be impossible to carry out his march order and that great results would be obtained by pressing his attack. However, the major decided to disengage and continue his march. In the light of after events this appears to have been unfortunate, for the position which this battalion outflanked and enveloped was held by Germans who stopped the division on our left for two days.

Whether this battalion commander should have continued the engagement where he was or should have broken it off is an interesting question. He had already been delayed beyond the time when he could pass to the rôle of the assault battalion which in the meantime must have made other arrangements. If he dislodged the enemy on whose flank and rear he was he would undoubtedly perform great service to his own division and possibly to the division on his left. What would you do?

### Continuing the Advance.

The two battalions on the line of the corps objective remained in position during the nights of the 26th and 27th, and then received orders to continue the advance. The regiment was formed in two lines, one battalion in attack and one in support, and thus moved forward for about a kilometer until stopped by artillery and small arms fire. The German fire cut both lines of the slope of a hill and we suffered a great many casualties and were forced back to the original position along the corps objective of the 26th September. On the 28th the advance was again ordered, and the regiment was formed as before and attacked, overcoming the Germans occupying the hill in the woods before us, a considerable distance in advance of the original line. The effect of the German fire was very severe during this attack, many officers and men being killed and wounded. My Lieutenant-Colonel was killed and I was wounded. The regiment went on to its objective, where it was later relieved by the reserve brigade.

On my way to a dressing station in rear I saw one of my small groups, part of a headquarters company detachment, in a protected position, and asked—with some violence of expression perhaps—what they were doing there. The commander said he was "trying to find the battle." This is a striking example of failure in leadership. The men of the group were good men and would have gone where their commander led.

### Vital Importance of Leadership.

Of the elements that contribute to victory leadership is above all others. The bearing of an officer on the battlefield is most important. Regardless of his own impressions and sensations he must retain an air of confidence and optimism. In battle the officer has the centre of the stage and he has both a sympathetic and critical audience. On no other stage is poor or good acting so long remembered, and if he performs well his soldiers will excuse many faults. Most men will follow a brave leader. From my observation of the British Army, I infer that their main desideratum was that officers led their men without fear in battle. Knowledge

and professional attainments were not stressed to the same extent as courage. In the French Army it would appear that technique on the part of the officer is over-stressed, and in battle great reliance is placed on the highly-trained non-commissioned officer. In our army we require the highest development in both. It seems to me that no adoration is so sublime in its character as the devotion of soldiers to a conspicuous battle leader, for whom they will give life itself.

I would urge that officers of all ranks should be well forward in battle. Suppose, for example, in the first day of the advance here described I had not been with the assault battalion; would that major have gone ahead when the other battalion did not arrive at the intermediate ("leap-frog") position? Undoubtedly, no.

Men are carried along in battle by nervous energy. Food is uncertain—a cracker here or there. The period of apprehension before action is the worst of it. A battle is like a cold bath; the hard part is getting in. I have noticed, too, that a man is equally scared in a big or a little fight.

### The Question of Courage.

In the matter of courage men may be roughly divided into four classes: First, a small group whose faculties are energized and quickened in action; second, a comparatively small group whose mental and physical capacities operate about as they would under ordinary conditions; third, a very large group whose mental and physical faculties are depressed and numbed (perhaps a wise provision of Providence); and fourth, a very small group who give way to abject fear. Moreover, the same man will react differently on different occasions, due to physical condition, and he should be watched and studied. When a good soldier nears the nerve-breaking point he ought to be encouraged and helped.

The sensations, the thrills, that an officer experiences in battle are almost indescribable, and his problems are many. In the attack of the first day of the Argonne battle my best leaders were killed and wounded so that I had much difficulty in organizing the succeeding day's advance. It was necessary in one or two instances to post mediocre leaders and assure them that they held my highest confidence. No man can observe the advance of infantry against severe hostile fire without being impressed by the fact that the whole line is carried forward by a few brave leaders, each of whom in his little sphere steadies his group. Leadership is the supreme quality to win victories. A great leader is one who can get elan in action. It's nearly all a question of leadership.—"Infantry Journal," U.S.A.

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MANAGING EDITOR,

G.H.Q., Parkgate, DUBLIN.

## ECHOES FROM THE EASTERN COMMAND

Hurrah! We are to have a Headquarters Battalion Team once more at Collins Barracks. And they will be out to conquer the 21st Battalion, their neighbours. But what say the latter?

Sergt. Paddy Byrne has augmented the matrimonial list of the Command. He has the best wishes of fellow-"Arm-lets" and the "Boys."

T.D. is again to the fore, and has now selected a menu of his own. May the present one continue long enough.

Pat McAleavey is still being asked if he has found that Courier.

Larry has now got clear of that "Green" Fly.

All hands are inquiring about the 21st Excursion to Maryborough.

The Collins N.C.O.'s Dance proved to be a success, and all went merry and bright. Even "Siki" was present.

The Officers' Dance at Dundalk also turned out to be a success. The 24th certainly do things well.

A fair sprinkling of "Heads" was noticed entering a local "Soccer" enclosure one Saturday recently.

Why does it always rain when a certain Bugler is on duty in the Command? (Do not judge hastily; it may not be his fault.—Ed.).

All things come to those who wait. A certain enterprising Official has now secured an Office for himself, and has even had it well furnished.

C.S.M. McCamley and C.S.M. O'Connor are the first off to the School, and that the morning after the Dance!

Friend Kennedy has reported his arrival to relieve "Bill" of the "Green" Book—or should we say the "Blue" Sheet.

Lt. M. O'Brien, who has now got a big array of medals, says he has to get another this month.

A certain Officer of "Account" has now returned looking aggressively happy, he also having linked up with the Army of Benedicts.

Promotions "Acting" made Tuesday, was the cause of a great rush for Chits for the Tailor's next day—and lovely "Green" at that.

"Bill" and "Mick" are usually to be seen on Sunday morning having the usual stroll. Are their thoughts on the "Hill?"

"Igoe" is greatly spoken of as a coming "One" for the 21st Batt. team.

Sergt. Doyle and Sergt. Meyler kept the marker (Hawthorne) busy at the Mess "Chalking" down their scores, while "Picky" was busy at the Gramophone with the record, "We Won't Go Home Till Morning."

"Picky" also had a run on the Green Table with "Bob" afterwards, and must have thought he was playing for the Battalion team, as during the presence of the Battalion Scribe the balls were finding touch off the cushion.

Sergt.-Major O'Hanlon and Sergt. Fahey, not forgetting our promoted friend, Greene, says "A" Company are for the Maryborough Excursion to a man. Joe Lawless says he will wear breeches that day.

"Paul" is also mobilising his "Forces" for the day.

Chef Dan O'Brien hopes to be fit and well to let go his vocal powers at the coming Smoker—and he can do it.

Capt. Brannigan feels in the pink for the coming Eastern Command match, as also does John Sexton from the same (24th) Battalion.

Sergt. Chas. McAlinden has returned to the fold, but not for Ration business. He is to be with the "Boxers."

Best thanks are due to the Commandant and other Officers of the 13th Battalion for their kind treatment towards "Tug of War" team (P.A.'s) from Collins. This body, with training, will be heard of. They were again successful on this occasion.

Sergt. Meyler has now donned the Green Uniform, and looked well in company with "Butler" and his other College friend at Mess one night recently.

Who was the gent that promised to waken the Battalion Sergt. Cook at 5 a.m. one morning, but through a slight error had the latter in the Cookhouse at 3.15 a.m.?

### WOUNDED SOLDIERS' COMFORTS.

Gifts of Books, Magazines, Games and Smokes for the wounded soldiers in St. Bricin's and the Curragh Hospitals will be thankfully received by Cumann Sugraidh an Airm, 5 Parnell Square, or by the Managing Editor of "An t-Oglach," G.H.Q., Parkgate, Dublin.

Such gifts are urgently required, and all who can do so are earnestly requested to send their donations as soon as possible.

Pleasing to note from "Sporting Items of Interest" in a local evening journal that "Candidates for election as qualified riders are Commdt. Thos. Mason and Capt. Sean Trayers.

A certain Officer from the 14th Battalion at Limerick was observed near Collins Barracks on Sunday last in earnest conversation with the Sports Secretary of the 21st Battalion. Have we accepted the challenge of the 14th, who have "Some" team, One thing is certain—if matters have been arranged and the match takes place at Limerick, the 21st will feel satisfied with their outing, for the 14th are noted Sports.

The N.C.O.'s at Collins had a very successful "Smoker" on the 1st inst. The boys from Beggar's Bush enjoyed the night, and were loud in their praises. Speeches were many, and "Unknown Singers" made a name for themselves. The Scribe had been invited, but unfortunately could not attend. There should be no "scrounging" of cigarettes for a while. In fact some of the boys have enough to last for their attested terms.

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## SHRAPNEL.

Mr. John Good, T.D., wants to see the Army abolished. It's a Good idea, but not good enough.

His remarks on this subject compel the belief that it is better to be wise than Good.

He rather suggested to the Minister for Finance that we were a financial blight on the Exchequer; but Mr. Blythe remained unruffled—was quite blithe about it in fact.

"But," asked somebody in G.H.Q. Mess, "what would they do if they abolished the Army?"

"Appoint three or four Commissioners," promptly replied the bright young Lieutenant from the Central Registry.

But this is a subject deserving of more prominence. Orderly! Bring hither the Departmental harp and we will burst into song:—

I have a song to sing, O!  
Sing me your song, O!  
It was sung to his kin, by a man who's in  
The Dail, and a Good man there, too.  
'Tis the song of a bizness man moping mum,  
Whose soul was sad and whose glance was glum,  
Who sipped no sup and who craved no crumb  
As he thought of the cost of the Army.  
Ah, me! Ah, me! Well-a-day me! Lack-a-day dee!  
He sipped no sup and he craved no crumb,  
But he frowned and scowled and bit his thumb  
As he thought of the cost of the Army.

We have a song to sing, O!  
Sing me your song, O!  
'Tis the song of the men who held the gates  
And fought 'gainst the nation's wrongdoers,  
Who saved the biz of folk now dumb,  
Also of some who bite the thumb,  
And grudge the soldier man a crumb,  
And moan at the cost of the Army.  
Ah, me! Ah, me! Well-a-day me! Lack-a-day dee!  
The Danes are wise, but so are we,  
And the time's not yet we can plainly see  
To put the tin hat on the Army.

Latest from that class for N.C.O.'s:  
"The weight of the bayonet is one pound and half an inch."

After the lecture a group of junior Officers were discussing the eternal tangle of Strategy and Tactics. At last the eldest of them elucidated the problem thusly:

"Strategy," said he, "consists of the methods employed by youngsters like ye to get down to the Mess early, and Tactics are the methods ye employ once ye get there."

"I see," said the perkier youngster; "and, as usual, the Interior Lines of Communications are the most important."

## ACROSS THE WATER.

"Punch," which our American relatives call "Sad News from Home," published the following jape about the British Army some years ago, and it has been rediscovered by an Officer of antiquarian proclivities at G.H.Q.:—

"In order to facilitate promotion in the Army, the preference in the selection of Commissions will, in future, be given to gentlemen of a retiring disposition."

## THE DIFFERENCE.

The coloured preacher was exhorting his audience to join "de Army of de Lawd."  
"I'se 'listed already," said one; "I'se jined de Baptists."  
"Pooh!" said the old preacher, scornfully, "dat ain't de Army: dat's de Navy."

We note from our A.A.A. Notes that Offaly had the services of Lieutenant Cordial in the Leinster Hurling Final. He must have acted as a tonic.

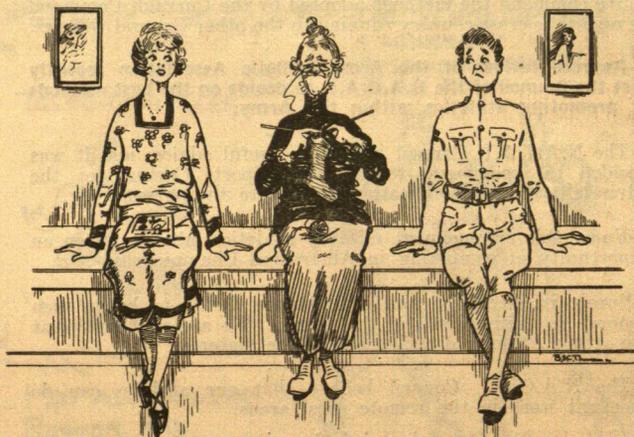
Somebody dropped into the Editorial sanctum the other day and found the Scribe trying to write "Notes and Comments" what time an Army carpenter hammered lustily at some shelving.

"Hello," said the fatuous visitor, "What's the carpenter doing?"

"Trying to drive home my arguments," said the Scribe, wearily.

A carafe stood on the Scribe's desk filled with the dubious-looking, rusty fluid that the Vartry is at present sending to Dublin. The visitor looked at it as it shone muddily in the sun, and seemed to be puzzled. At last he turned to the Scribe and asked solicitously: "Did someone pinch your goldfish?"

## ANOTHER BOUNDARY QUESTION.



## A CABLE MESSAGE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

To Editor "An t-Oglach," G.H.Q., Dublin.

Have made positive arrangements to appear with Molly, Con and the Englishman in your pages within next few weeks under the banner of "Foreign Fields." Notify readers every instalment will form complete story. Have settled up things here as far as possible. If they want another dust up they will have to conduct it without the assistance of

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# ALL THE NEWS OF THE ARMY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Curragh Command Meeting—Cross-Country Work at the Curragh—Dates of Command Boxing Championships—Conference with N.A.C.A.I.—Gormanston Camp Sports—Commandant Cotter Returns to the Attack.

(Special Reports for "An t-Oglach.")

Army hurlers played a prominent part in the Leinster Final played at Croke Park on 26th ult.

The Army supplied Dublin with four players—Finlay, O'Neill, Barry and Kelly. Offaly had the services of Lieut. Cordial.

We commend the methods adopted by the Curragh Command in regard to cross-country running to the other General Officers.

**Representatives of the Army Athletic Association recently met the Council of the N.A.C.A.I. to decide on the best methods of promoting athletics within the Army.**

The N.A.C.A.I. Council gave very useful advice, and it was decided to recommend to Battalion Sports Committees the advisability of affiliating athletic clubs to the parent body.

Under this arrangement military athletic clubs are given an opportunity of competing in All-Ireland Championships.

Surely it should be aim of Battalion O/C's to bring such honours to their units and the Army. We are confident that the Army Athletic Association has the material.

The N.A.C.A.I. Council believe that our athletes can do excellent work in the remote rural areas.

Boxing is at present going strong in the different Commands.

**The following dates have been agreed on for the holding of the Command Boxing Championships:—**

**Southern, 12th November—Collins Barracks, Cork.  
Western, 12th November—Custume Barracks, Athlone.  
Eastern, 12th November—Portobello Barracks, Dublin.  
Curragh, 12th November—Gymnasium, Curragh Camp.**

Battling Brannigan defeated the Army Welter Champion, Sergeant P. Dwyer, on points at Nenagh on the 25th October.

A most successful tournament was held at New Barracks, Limerick. The contestants were Army boxers v. Limerick city boxers. Honours were even, the military winning three bouts and losing three.

Colonel D. Reynolds is doing an amount of good for athletics since taking control in Limerick.

**The Standing Committee decided to postpone the Chaplains' and Medical Services' Competitions until the Spring.**

It is possible that the competitions may be decided on Battalion lines.

It behoves the different Battalion teams in consequence to keep fit.

The Civic Guard and D.M.P. handballers have accepted the invitation of the Executive Council to meet an Army selection. Arrangements will be announced later.

The handball court at the Curragh Training Camp has undergone structural alterations, and is now almost ready. This court when finished will be one of the finest in the country.

We would again appeal to the authorities to give this question of ballcourt erection their favourable consideration.

A pressing need is a supply of cross-country equipment for N.C.O.'s and men. The cost per outfit would amount roughly to about six shillings.

**May we again impress upon the various Sports Officers the necessity of sending brief interesting reports for these columns.**

Commandant Thomas Ryan, the All-Army Football Team Captain, has had one of his fingers amputated as a result of an injury received whilst playing for his Command last season. Army athletes will learn of his misfortune with much regret.

The Curragh Command intend to keep their footballers in form.

At the last meeting of the Command Council arrangements were made to carry out a tournament on the seven-a-side principle.

The Curragh Council is probably the most earnest of all our Councils. Each branch of sport has its representative, and all are enthusiastic.

Major McCabe, the Command Adjutant, is Chairman, and has done much to advance athletics. He has a capable assistant in Commandant Kingston, late Southern Command.

Major Hunt is Chairman of the Boxing Sub-Committee. Much of the credit for the fine athletic successes of Curragh athletes is due to Sergeant-Major Cunningham, the Hon. Sec. The Sergeant-Major has brought much-needed spirit into all ranks at the Curragh.

This year's Army Boxing Championships promise to be more successful than even last year. We have received returns from some of the Commands which go to show that the number of boxers at present in the Army is much in excess of last season, whilst the material is also much better.

### CROSS-COUNTRY WORK AT THE CURRAGH.

Cross-country work has commenced in real earnest at the Curragh. Major-General Sweeney, G.O.C., is deeply interested in this mode of training, and is a leader of one of the packs. The distance for the month of October was three miles. So that each unit may have an equal chance of training, dates and hours have been arranged as follows.—

**Monday**—1st Battalion, 5th Battalion, 15th Battalion and N.C.O.'s School of Instruction, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Tuesday**—25th Battalion, 26th Battalion, 27th Battalion and 9th Brigade Headquarter Staff, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

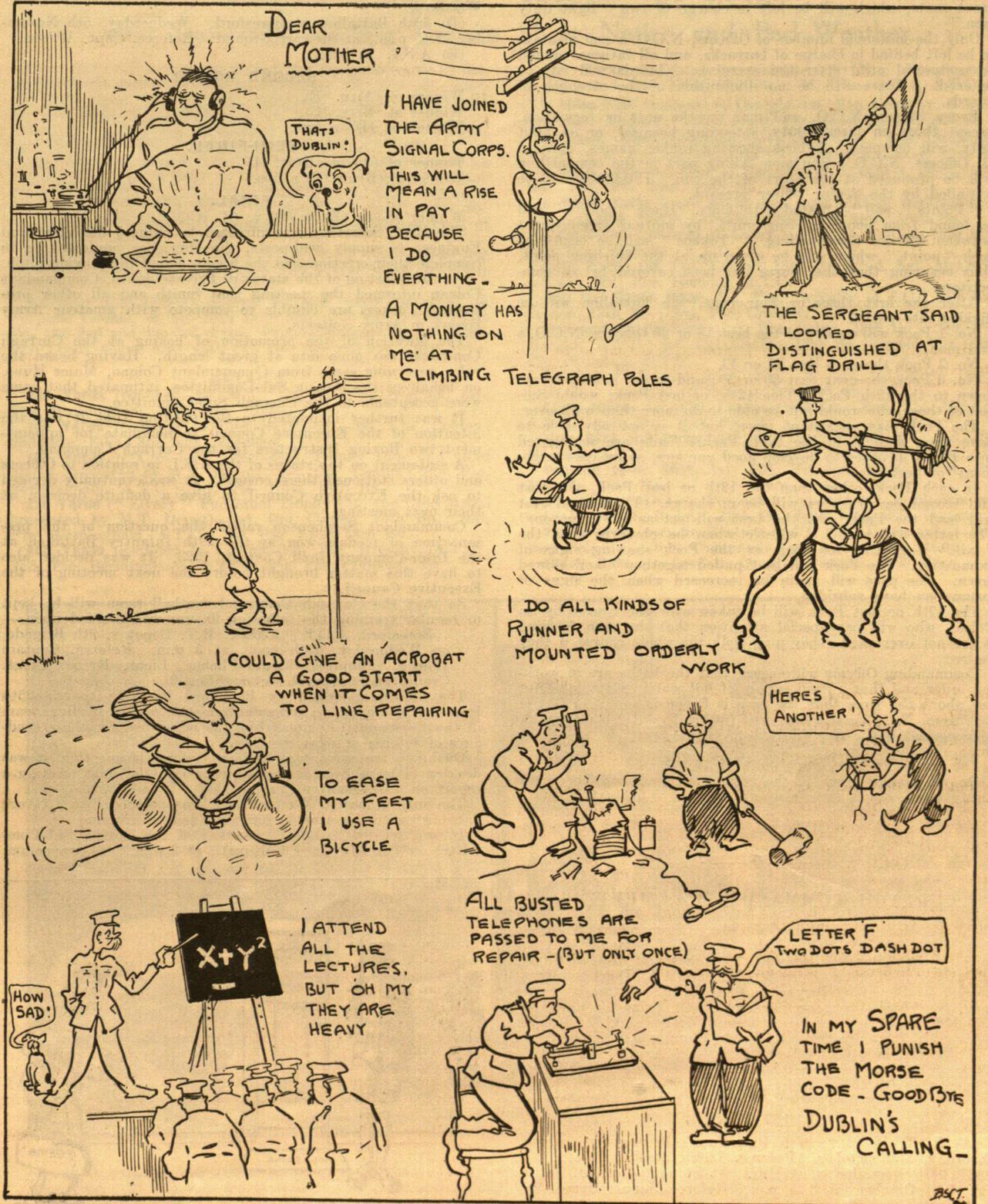
**Thursday**—Army Medical Corps, Beresford Barracks (all formations), including Corps of Military Police and Army Corps of Engineers, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Friday**—Reception and Training Depot, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

With regard to the Army School of Instruction, arrangements will be made by the Officer Commanding to hold a cross-country run for students on course, weekly, when most convenient. He will notify Camp Headquarters as to day and hour proposed.

(Continued in Page 12).

PRIVATE MURPHY BRIGHTENS UP "SIGNALS."



DEAR MOTHER

THAT'S DUBLIN!

I HAVE JOINED THE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS. THIS WILL MEAN A RISE IN PAY BECAUSE I DO EVERYTHING.

A MONKEY HAS NOTHING ON ME AT CLIMBING TELEGRAPH POLES

THE SERGEANT SAID I LOOKED DISTINGUISHED AT FLAG DRILL

I COULD GIVE AN ACROBAT A GOOD START WHEN IT COMES TO LINE REPAIRING

I DO ALL KINDS OF RUNNER AND MOUNTED ORDERLY WORK

TO EASE MY FEET I USE A BICYCLE

HERE'S ANOTHER!

ALL BUSTED TELEPHONES ARE PASSED TO ME FOR REPAIR - (BUT ONLY ONCE)

LETTER F TWO DOTS DASH DOT

I ATTEND ALL THE LECTURES, BUT OH MY THEY ARE HEAVY

IN MY SPARE TIME I PUNISH THE MORSE CODE - GOODBYE DUBLIN'S CALLING -

HOW SAD!

B.C.T.

Troops will be marched to the starting point, which in all cases must be outside the Camp defences. They will wear great coats, which will be left in charge of two "light duty men."

Only the minimum number of Officers, N.C.O.'s and men are to be left behind in charge of barracks, and all fatigues should be postponed until after the exercise. Guards will not be relieved. There will be no diminution of the strength of guards.

Every Officer, N.C.O. and man in the unit or formation, except those on special duty, attending hospital, or on light duty, will compete. A book showing ranks, names, etc., of all Officers, N.C.O.'s and men taking part in the competition will be produced at the start of the run. This book will be initiated by the Senior Officer present.

"Points" will be posted with flags. These "points" will be found from non-competing units, by mutual arrangement between Officers Commanding. "Tokens" will be issued at each "point," which will be given up at the finishing point, thus ensuring that the course has been covered by all competitors.

After the first three or four runs, the Battalion will be divided into packs.

No. 1 Pack will consist of the best 15 or 20 Officers, N.C.O.'s and men.

No. 2 Pack the next best 20 or 30.

No. 3 Pack the next best 20 or 30; and so on, if necessary, down to the 12th Pack. This 12th, or last Pack, would consist of those who would not be able to do more than walk over.

The Pack may consist of more, but it is not advisable to have more than 20 in the First Pack. Units are segregated into Packs in order to develop good runners, as an encouragement for best efforts.

In each Pack, other than the 12th or last Pack, the best and second best runners will be in charge. The second best will lead the Pack, and the best will act as "whipper-in." The latter will sound a whistle when he observes that the "tail" is getting too long, or the Pack showing signs of exhaustion. The Pack will be "pulled together" and slowed down. The pace will again be increased when the signs of exhaustion have subsided.

The 12th or last Pack will be taken over the course by an Officer, who will pay special attention that the men forming it are not overtaxed—they may walk the whole course if they desire.

Commanding Officers will ensure that the baths are in working order and that a good supply of hot water is available for use about the time that the race is finished.

Officers, N.C.O.'s and men who (owing to duties) are unable to compete on the day allotted to them, must do so at the same hour next day.

**The run is to start punctually at 10 a.m.**

On the day previous to the race, Commanding Officers will notify Camp Headquarters where the race will start from.

Officers Commanding units and formations will arrange with the Command Medical Officer for a Medical Officer to be present at the parade.

### CURRAGH COMMAND A.A.A. MEETING.

In the absence of Major McCabe, Commandant Kingston presided at the meeting of the Curragh Command, A.A.A., held in the Library, Beresford Barracks, on the 28th ult. Also present—Commandant Stephenson, R.T. Depot; Lieuts. Woodlock, Beresford Barracks; Phelan, 27th Battalion; Sherlock, Beresford Barracks; Brennan, 9th Brigade; Coughlan and Murray, 25th Battalion; Captain Wilson, A.C.E.; C.S.M. Doogan, P.T. Staff; Sergeant-Major Cunningham, Hon. Sec.; and Commandant Colgan, Secretary, A.A.A.

The following draws and fixtures in Seven-a-side Football Competition for the Murphy Medals were made:—

#### FIRST ROUND.

(A) R. T. Depot v. 27th Battalion. At Stewart Ground, Saturday, 31st October. Referee, Lieut. Mathews.

(B) 26th Battalion v. A.M.C. At Stewart Ground, Saturday, 31st October, at 3.15 p.m. Referee, Lieut. Byrne, 9th Brigade.

(C) 25th Battalion v. 5th Battalion. At Stewart Ground, Wednesday, 5th November, 2.30 p.m. Referee, Lieutenant Woodlock.

(D) 15th Battalion v. Beresford. Wednesday, 5th November, 3.15 p.m., at Stewart Ground. Referee, Capt. Wilson.

(E) A.S.I. A bye.

#### SECOND ROUND.

Winner of (A) v. (E).

Winner of (B) v. (C).

Winner of (D) a bye.

#### SEMI-FINAL.

Winner of (A) or (E) v. (D).

Winner of (B) or (C) a bye.

#### FINAL.

Winner of (A) (E) or (D) v. (B) (C).

The Hon. Secretary was directed to request the Command Engineer to supply goal-posts, the Hon. Sec. undertaking to complete their erection and the laying out of the playing pitch.

On the question of the status of Private Smith, Commandant Colgan informed the meeting that Smith and all other professional boxers are eligible to compete with amateur Army boxers in Army contests.

The question of the promotion of boxing at the Curragh Command was gone into at great length. Having heard the rules governing same from Commandant Colgan, Major Hunt, on behalf of the Boxing Sub-Committee, intimated that same were acceptable to the Curragh Sub-Committee.

It was further intimated to the meeting that it was the intention of the Executive Council to nominate for appointment two Boxing Instructors for the Curragh Command.

A statement on the status of the A.S.I. in relation to Officers and others stationed there ensued. It was eventually decided to ask the Executive Council to give a definite decision at their next meeting.

Commandant Stephenson raised the question of the presentation of medals won by the 29th Infantry Battalion at the Inter-Company Drill Contest, 1923. It was decided also to have this matter brought before the next meeting of the Executive Council.

So that the Curragh Command football team will be kept in regular training the following fixture was decided upon:—

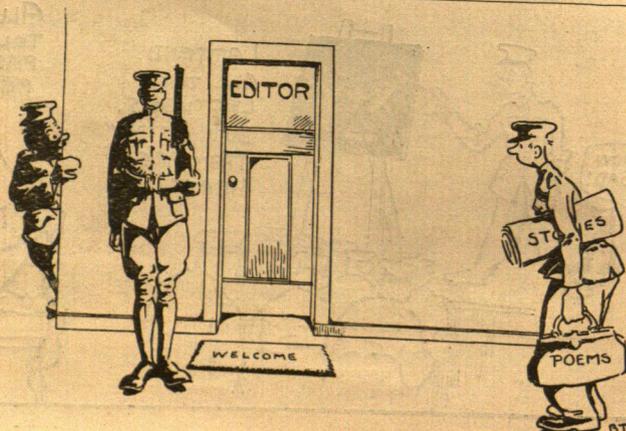
Beresford, A.C.E., A.M.C., R.T. Depot v. 9th Brigade, on Wednesday, 29th inst., at 3 p.m. Referee, Captain Wilson. Umpires, Lieut. Phelan, Lieut. Byrne, Lieut. Cronin and Corporal McLoughlin.

The objection lodged by Beresford Barracks to the 25th Infantry Battalion re irregular constitution of hurling team in the Command Championship was adjourned for the attendance of referee at next meeting.

Owing to the amount of business before the meeting, it was decided to leave over for consideration to the next meeting a report on cross-country running.

The hurling match, West v. East, was postponed to a future date owing to the already heavily-laden programme.

It was decided to hold a meeting of the Boxing Sub-Committee on Thursday, the 30th inst., at 2 p.m., at Gymnasium.



## GORMANSTON CAMP SPORTS.

### Most Successful Meeting Despite Short Notice and Bad Weather.

The troops of Gormanston Camp had an opportunity of displaying their athletic prowess on Thursday, the 29th ult., when the M.T. Depot and the 13th Battalion combined forces and brought off a very successful sports meeting.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, an exhaustive programme was carried through without a hitch.

The successful result is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that the decision to run the sports was only arrived at on the previous evening, thus allowing little time to perfect all arrangements. The men of the camp, however, rose to the occasion, and everything was O.K. by the appointed hour of starting.

The standard of the games was very high throughout, and the prize-winners in many events had a stiff tussle for their victories.

Amongst the winners special mention must be made of Corporal Conlon, of the 13th Battalion, who carried off eight 1st, two 2nd and one 3rd prize. Private Higgins, Army Transport Corps, comes next with two 1st, two 2nd and three 3rd's.

#### DETAILS.

**100 Yards** (confined to M.T. Depot)—Pte. Higgins, 1st; Pte. Birmingham, 2nd; Pte. Glynn, 3rd.

**100 Yards** (confined to 13th Battalion)—1st, Cpl. Conlon; 2nd, Pte. Ellis; 3rd, Sgt. Needham.

**100 Yards** ("Crossley" Perpetual Trophy Cup and Gold Medal presented by M.T. Depot)—1st, Cpl. Conlon; 2nd, Pte. Birmingham, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. Ellis, 13th Bn.

**220 Yards** ("Elvery" Perpetual Trophy Cup and Gold Medal presented by M.T. Depot)—1st, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Birmingham, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. Ellis, 13th Bn.

**440 Yards** (confined to Camp)—1st, Pte. Higgins, A.T.C.; 2nd, Pte. Birmingham, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. Conachy, do.

**880 Yards** (confined to Camp)—1st, Pte. Birmingham, A.T.C.; 2nd, Pte. Ellis, 13th Bn.; 3rd, Pte. Glynn, A.T.C.

**3 Miles Flat** (confined to Camp)—1st, Pte. Conachy, A.T.C.; 2nd, Cpl. Maguire, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. Bermnigham, A.T.C.

**Obstacle Race** (confined to Camp)—1st, Pte. McNulty, A.T.C.; 2nd, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 3rd, Pte. Lakes, 13th Bn.

**3 Miles Cycle** (confined to Camp)—1st, C.Q.M.S. Doyle, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Goff, 13th Bn.

**5 Miles Cycle** (open to Eastern and G.H.Q. Commands)—1st, C.Q.M.S. Doyle, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Goff, 13th Bn.

**High Jump** (confined to Camp)—1st, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. McNulty, A.T.C.

**Sack Race**—1st, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Sgt. McCourt, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. Henchy, A.T.C.

**Egg and Spoon Race**—1st, Pte. McNulty, A.T.C.; 2nd, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 3rd, Pte. Crossby, A.T.C.

**Bun and Bottle Race**—1st, Pte. Lakes, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Morgan, A.T.C.; 3rd, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; consolation prize, Pte. Munday, A.T.C.

**Hurling Puck** (one prize only)—Winner, C.Q.M.S. Doyle, 13th Bn. Commdt. O'Sullivan followed up.

**Long Jump**—1st, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Higgins, A.T.C.; 3rd, Pte. McNulty, do.

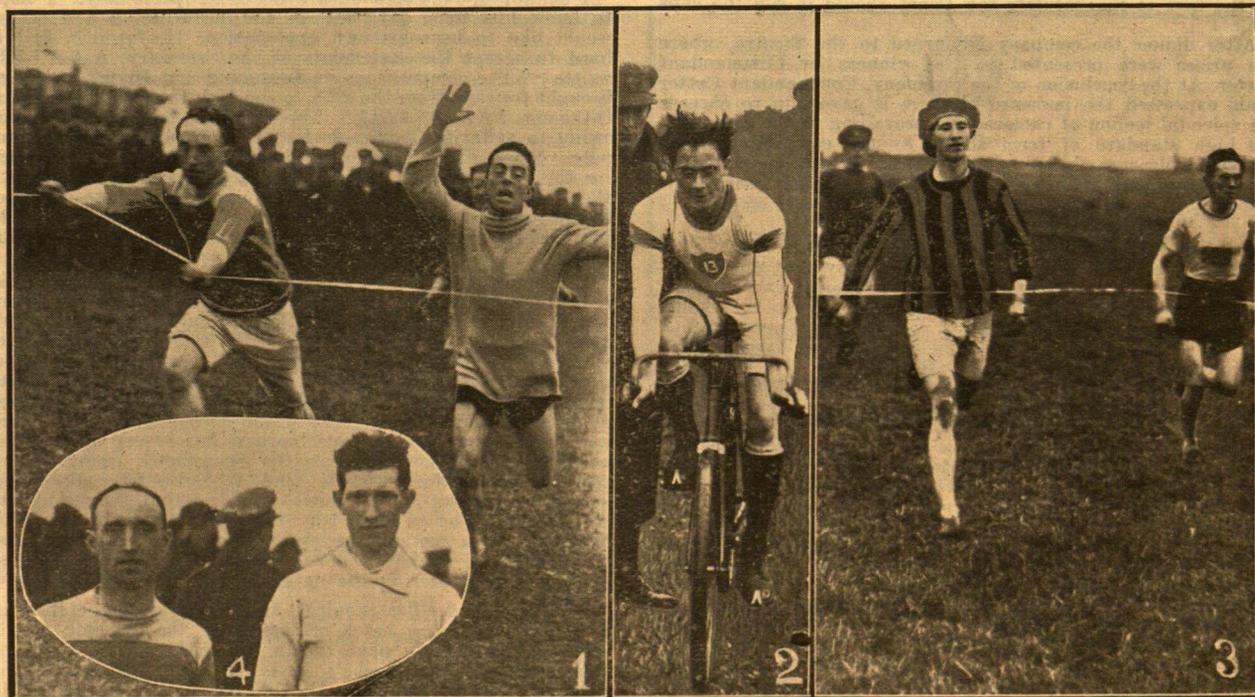
**Hop, Step and Jump**—1st, Cpl. Conlon, 13th Bn.; 2nd, Pte. Higgins, A.T.C.

**Putting 16-lb. Shot**—1st, Pte. Higgins, A.T.C.; 2nd, Pte. Murphy, 13th Bn.

**Tug-o'-War** (Dunlop Perpetual Cup and set of Medals presented by M.T. Depot)—13th Bn. Team beat M.T. Depot.

**Tug-o'-War** (open to Eastern and G.H.Q. Commands)—Military Police (Eastern Command) beat Gormanston Camp.

**Relay Race** (confined to Camp)—Winners, 13th Bn.



"An t-Oglach" Snaps at Gormanston Sports.—(1) Private Higgins (Transport) winning the 100 Yards; Private Birmingham, 2nd. (2) C.Q.M.S. Doyle, winner of 3 Miles and 5 Miles Cycle Races. (3) Corporal Conlon winning the 200 Yards (Camp Championship). (4) "Close up" of Private Higgins and Corporal Conlon, who captured seven and thirteen prizes respectively.

TABLE OF PLACES.

	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Totals.
13th Battalion	13	7	4	24
M.T. Depot	7	10	8	25
Military Police	1	(only event entered).		

The 13th Battalion won honours for the highest number of first places. M.T. Depot won honours for highest number of places (inclusive).

A special prize was presented to Corporal Conlon, 13th Batt., for his exceptionally fine display in winning the highest number of first prizes.

A consolation prize was presented to Private Munday, A.T.C., for the Bun and Obstacle Aace.

The Eastern Command Police maintained their All-Army reputation by an easy victory.

#### DINNER TO FIRST PRIZE WINNERS.

At the conclusion of the sports the Officers of the Camp entertained the first-prize winners to a dinner. At the request of the Committee, Commandant Cotter, Director of Transport, presided. A pleasing and novel incident at the dinner was the passing round of the three Perpetual Trophy Cups filled with champagne to toast the winners.

Commandant Cotter, in proposing the toast, remarked that he was amazed at the high standard of form shown by the competitors. He was pleased to see such a splendid feeling of sportsmanship and harmony between the Infantry and the Transport men. The best men had won every event, and it was a great pleasure to have the honour of proposing their health. The toast was drunk standing, Mr. Harry Reynolds, the well-known tenor, leading the traditional chorus.

Commandant O'Sullivan, in replying to the toast on behalf of the 13th Battalion, thanked Commandant Cotter, the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the M.T. Depot for their expressions of goodwill. He thanked Commandant Cotter for honouring the men of the Camp in presiding at the table and sports. He was sorry the 13th Battalion had won the Perpetual Trophy Cups, and at the same time glad that the honour had fallen on them. He sincerely hoped that the 13th Battalion would again combine with the M.T. Depot next year, and he would be the first to congratulate the Depot should it win the cups back.

After dinner the company adjourned to the theatre, where the prizes were presented to the winners by Commandant Cotter. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Commandant Cotter again expressed the immense pleasure it gave him to observe the splendid feeling of camaraderie prevailing in the camp and the high standard of form shown by the competitors. He expressed pleasure that the losers appeared to be animated by the fine sporting sentiment conveyed by the lines learned at school:

"'Tis not in mortals to command success

But we'll do more, Sempronius, we'll deserve it."

The best men won, and he was proud to say that the Transport men had risen to the occasion far above his expectations. He felt assured that the cups would be captured—or, should he say, re-captured—next year. Though the Transport had lost the cups this year, he would nevertheless have nothing but pleasant recollections of that day.

Commandant O'Sullivan thanked Commandant Cotter for his gracious compliments to the 13th Battalion, and declared that though he hoped the 13th Battalion would always be successful in all its undertakings he would not mind defeat at the hands of the M.T. Depot. He felt that had the weather been fine the result of the sports would have been different, and until they met under such conditions he would not admit that the 13th Battalion had the best men.

A cinema entertainment and impromptu concert (to which Mr. Reynolds kindly contributed several items) followed the presentation of prizes.

The Committee in charge of the arrangements consisted of: President, Commandant D. O'Sullivan, 13th Battalion; Vice-President, Captain T. J. Cooke, A.T. Corps; Hon. Sec., Lieut. J. Maguire, 13th Battalion; Hon. Treasurer and Caterer, Lieut. J. P. Tukey, A.T. Corps; C.Q.M.S. Doyle, C.Q.M.S. Kilduff, 13th Battalion; Corporal Duffy and Private Walsh, A.T.C., members. Judges: Captain F. Carey, A.T.C.; Captain C. Carroll, 13th Battalion; Lieutenant J. Hayes, A.T.C.; Lieut. M. Kerrigan, 13th Battalion. Starter: Lieut. J. McDermott, A.T. Corps.

## COMMANDANT COTTER'S CRITICISMS.

### Reply to the Secretary of the A.A.A.

To the Editor of "An t-Oglach."

A Chara,—In common with the vast majority of Officers, I am jealous of the honour and reputation of the Army and its various associations. The handling of the Swimming Competition during All-Army Week is, to put it mildly, a matter of censorious comment in swimming circles. I would like to see amends made to the clubs and individuals aggrieved by the mishandling of the fixture, and with this end in view I sought publicity in your columns to focus attention on the matter, and to indicate that, in my opinion, censorious comment was justified. It will require more than the Secretary's assurance that there is "nothing wrong" to cause me to change my opinion, and I am not to be deterred from pressing the matter by the fact that insulting innuendos are levelled at me.

Before dealing with the A.A.A. Secretary's reply, I would point out that it is not denied:—

(1) That the Water Polo Match advertised did not materialise.

(2) That competitors from outside clubs were charged Gate Entrance Fee by the A.A.A.

(3) That the Sub-Committee was never summoned and never met.

(4) That two members of the Sub-Committee acted in the name of the Committee, without consulting the third member.

The Secretary, A.A.A., is quite satisfied. He says there's "nothing wrong." There is certainly room for a second opinion on this matter. What do the Executive Committee, A.A.A., say?

I do not know Commandant O'Connor personally. I hope to know him some day, but, in the meantime, I and others would like to hear his own explanation. I, for one, find it hard to accept the statements of the Secretary, A.A.A. He writes: "The competitions in Swimming and Diving were not brought forward from the 27th to the 17th to suit Commandant O'Connor *PERSONALLY*. The fact is Commdt. O'Connor, owing to suffering from a bad cold, *DID* not intend to compete. The italics are mine. Did Commandant O'Connor enter for the competition? My information is that it was not until the 15th that Commandant O'Connor decided not to compete. He was picked for the Irish Water Polo Team which was to play in England on the 27th, the date originally fixed for the gala.

If the authorities, after consideration, adopted the view that it was desirable that our Army champion should get every opportunity of defending his title, it would not be unreasonable to alter the date to fit in with International arrangements. That little word "personally" seems to suggest that this was the reason for the change. If it was, why not say it plainly? The point would then be that there was an error of judgment in bringing forward the date instead of postponing it. At present the whole business has a very ugly whole-and-corner aspect. I accept the Secretary's correction re issue of competitors' tickets, and apologise for making the statement without qualification. The fact that tickets had to be issued *en bloc* on the 14th for a competition on the 17th leaves no room for surprise that competitors did not receive them, and is a striking commentary on the foresight of those responsible for altering the date.

I have made further enquiries and learn that one club Hon. Secretary received a batch of tickets on the morning of the event. Not being a paid full-time official, and lacking the attributes of Boyle Roche's bird, he could not deliver the tickets to the individuals. He did the next best thing. He approached the turnstile official with the suggestion that the block of tickets should be held at the gate, and if a competitor presented himself as such, means of verifying the statement would exist. The official in question refused to have anything to do with this arrangement, saying he knew nothing

about it. Is it any wonder that the members of outside clubs make wry faces when A.A.A. Swimming is introduced? Tickets for G.H.Q. Army competitors were received *en bloc* at G.H.Q. at one o'clock on the date of the fixture! The tickets were handed in personally by the Assistant Secretary to A.A.A. Very, very peculiar, when the Secretary, A.A.A., informs us that the "competitors' tickets were posted for each entrant on the 14th September."

Now as to the Sub-Committee. The Secretary, apparently satisfied, washes his hands after notifying the individual members of the Sub-Committee of their appointment. Is the Executive Council satisfied? Whose duty was it to summon the Sub-Committee? What work were they supposed to do? Did the Executive Council believe that, by simply notifying three gentlemen that they were on a Swimming Sub-Committee, a first-class gala would come along like rabbits out of a hat? Did the Council receive a report from the Secretary that the Swimming Sub-Committee never did any work? Were they aware of the fact (the Secretary says it's a fact) when they accepted the recommendations of two members of the Committee which never functioned?

In two distinct places, the Secretary, in a rather inconsequential manner, implies that I am lying.

Firstly: after enquiry, I wrote "The Sub-Committee was never summoned and never met." The Secretary, A.A.A., rushes into print with "I cannot definitely state if the Swimming Sub-Committee carried out its duties as to meeting." The Secretary should be "in close contact with every move of the A.A.A.," and he informs us that the work of the Swimming Sub-Committee fell on Father O'Callaghan and the Secretary's staff. Yet he cannot "definitely state" as to a fact.

Secondly, re Chess. (By the way, I did not put any query re Chess Championship.) I stated that the few clubs in the Army would like to know what is in prospect. The Secretary, A.A.A., writes, "If competitors are available." (Again the italics are mine.) Very gentlemanly, isn't it? And what have the A.A.A. Executive Council to say to their Secretary's attitude towards criticism? To suggest that a critic is a liar, or does not know what he is talking about, is not argument, and does not redound to the credit of the Executive, on whose behalf it must be taken to have been written. And what do the Council think of the suggestion that nothing has been done re Chess, and nothing will be done unless they are kicked into activity by a highly-vocal posse of would-be competitors? The Constitution states that the Association "shall cater for Chess."

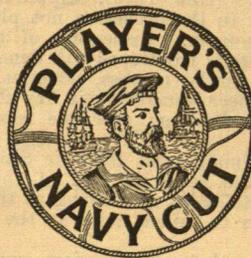
The Secretary writes:—"In conclusion, I would ease Commandant Cotter's mind by stating there is nothing wrong with the A.A.A. except that by close contact with its every move one may become blind to everything except its many good qualities."

Quite appropriate for the period of the Nelson anniversary celebrations! The truth hidden in a high-sounding phrase! It would be utterly crude to say "I can't see what I don't want to see." The tribute of imitation to the memory of Nelson would not be anything less, but the peg on which to hang patronage would be missing.

I think the A.A.A. Executive would do well to go into this matter, and indeed to take general stock of the position in relation to the programme with which they are charged. It is impossible to resist the conclusion that undue importance is attached to Boxing, Football and, possibly, Hurling—sports which can be counted on to draw a gate. Money is necessary, of course, but the A.A.A. is not an exclusively commercial undertaking with a host of greedy shareholders to satisfy. The general body are not interested in reading the Agenda or knowing that the Secretary is to go into a railway account, or what was done with "Renton's." I suggest that greater interest and support would be evoked if the A.A.A. Executive Council published a detailed programme for the twelve items in Group "A" and the three items in Group "B." If it is found that a particular item cannot be dealt with, then say so, and note to bring it up again at a definite future date. I, and several others, feel that the A.A.A. is not conscious of its functions and is merely drifting.—Mise, le meas,

J. P. M. COTTER, Commandant.

Headquarters, Army Transport Corps,  
General Headquarters, Parkgate,  
Dublin, 31st October, 1924.



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# PLAYER'S

## Navy Cut

### CIGARETTES



G.H.Q.

## THE ANNUAL BALL

will be held on FRIDAY, 9th JANUARY, 1925, in  
THE METROPOLE BALLROOM.

ADELAIDE MELODY BAND.

TICKETS (Limited), £1 5s. 0d. Early application to  
the Hon Sec., G.H.Q., Parkgate, is requested.

### DISARMAMENT OF DENMARK.

In the Lower House of the Danish Parliament on Thursday, 9th ult., the Minister for Defence laid the Disarmament Bill before the House.

The Army and Navy and the Ministries for War and Marine are to be abolished, and also military service. All fortifications are to be disarmed and dismantled, and works and factories, etc., belonging to the Army and Navy will be employed in State civil enterprises. There will be established in place of the Army a corps of guards to assist the frontier and Customs gendarmerie and the police in guarding the Danish coast and frontier and in maintaining order. The organisation of the corps will prevent it being employed against regular enemy forces.

The Navy, in its present form, will be superseded by a "State Navy," which will be used merely to guard the Danish coast and to protect Danish national interests within Danish territorial waters.

## THE SOUND OF A BULLET.

Writers of fiction seem to think that a moving bullet is capable of producing a very great and peculiar range of noises, says Capt. E. C. Crossman, writing under the above head in "Outers' Recreation" (New York). Apparently, he remarks, the only instrument in the orchestra not played by the flying bullet is the bass-drum. Inspection of the first ten stories in which bullet noise is mentioned will demonstrate that a bullet hums, whines, howls, crashes, whistles, buzzes and whispers. In point of sheer versatility it has the trump-drummer of a jazz orchestra hanging over the ropes. He continues:

"Our work at the Army Small Arms Ballistic Station, in which keen observation at the receiving end of the bullet flight was as important as intelligent gun-laying at the firing end, permitted much data as to bullet noise at the various ranges.

"Modern cartridges drive their bullets fast enough to create a partial vacuum at the base, and the air, rushing in, makes a sharp crack, most nearly described by the vicious cracking of a long and well-handled whip.

"One of the most illustrative examples of this noise lay in the erosion firing we did at Miami to determine the life of machine-gun barrels with various types of powders. The gun was laid to drop the bullets into the water at the 2,000-

### TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Contributions intended for publication in our next issue **must reach this office NOT LATER THAN SATURDAY, 15th INST.**

Typewritten articles should be **double-spaced**. All contributions must be written on one side of the paper only, and must, in every instance, be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.

meter mark, one and a quarter miles from the gun, and in front of the observation tower. Sitting on the upper platform of the tower the officers observing could watch the strike of the burst, estimate its length, and accurately tell when the machine-gun barrel was wearing out.

"The firing of the gun was always first announced by a sharp rattle in the receiver of the field-telephone set on the platform with us, sounding much as if somebody were 'ringing on the line.'

"The next announcement of the coming of the bullets was a thin, sharp, crackling noise from the air between us and the gun, following the first rattle in the telephone with an interval of about five seconds. Almost on the heels of the first of the crackling noises came the bullets, with their thudding splashes into the water, fifty yards away.

"An instant later, but perceptible in its delay, came the dull, heavy, thudding grumble of the machine-gun. Wherefore even at this long range where the bullet is steadily losing out in its race with sound, the first notification of being under fire would come from the high, thin crackle of the bullets, not from any sound of the gun."

Analyzing the sequence of the sounds, Captain Crossman draws the following conclusions: The bullet does not make any crackling noise after it falls in velocity to about 1,400 feet per second. This noise came from the bullets at some point short of this. The sound, from the first rattle heard over the telephone, first came from a bullet which had taken about 2.2 seconds to reach its practically noiseless point. It did not proceed from the bullets close to the gun, for the good reason that the bullets travel faster than sound over the first 1,000 metres. He goes on:

"The boat-tail bullet requires from five and one-half to six seconds to travel 2,000 metres, hence the slight interval between sound and bullet arrival. At longer ranges the bullet arrives still farther behind its own sound, while at shorter range the bullet arrives slightly ahead of it.

"The gun noise, of course, came at the rate of 1,100 feet per second, arriving perceptibly behind bullet noise.

"At longer ranges it would arrive before the bullet.

"At 1,000 yards the coming of such a bullet is announced by the very sharp and vicious characteristic crack of the high velocity bullet.

"The noise of the gun comes after it with an interval of about one second, and very perceptible. The observer hears distinctly 'pack-punk!' to testify that a high velocity bullet has passed close by him. The noise of the gun is merely a dull heavy thudding sort of sound.

"Even at 200 yards the sound interval can easily be distinguished between bullet and gun noise.

"High velocity bullets, at quite long ranges, a mile or more, do whistle, possibly through unsteadiness of flight. Some bullets, such as those fired from a pistol and other low velocity missiles, emit a peculiar snarl, but badly mixed with the sound of the firearm itself. A pistol bullet fired at one and passing close at a distance of thirty yards or more from the gun makes a sound that is best expressed phonetically as 'Yow!'

"The same bullet, fired at short range or within the walls of a room, would not be heard, the bang of the gun would blanket any lesser noise, which is invited to the attention of fiction gentlemen. Likewise there is little foundation for the oft-used reference to the suicide sending a bullet crashing into his brain. There is no authentic report from suicides, or even attempted suicides, that a bullet crashes.

"Low-velocity bullets such as those from the .22 long-rifle or pistol cartridges emit a little whisper at ranges far enough so the noise of the gun is mostly lost; phonetically it is merely a little 'Psst.'

"The only small-arms bullet which howls is one which has first bumped its nose on something firm enough to make it glance or ricochet, and is travelling either with badly deformed outline or at a crazy angle to its line of flight, or both. Wherefore it is well to keep in mind that a bullet howls for the same reason that little Willy would howl under the same circumstances—bumping against something hard and immovable.

"Ordinary bird-shot hiss distinctly when far enough away, so the gun noise does not cover up the hissing."

For

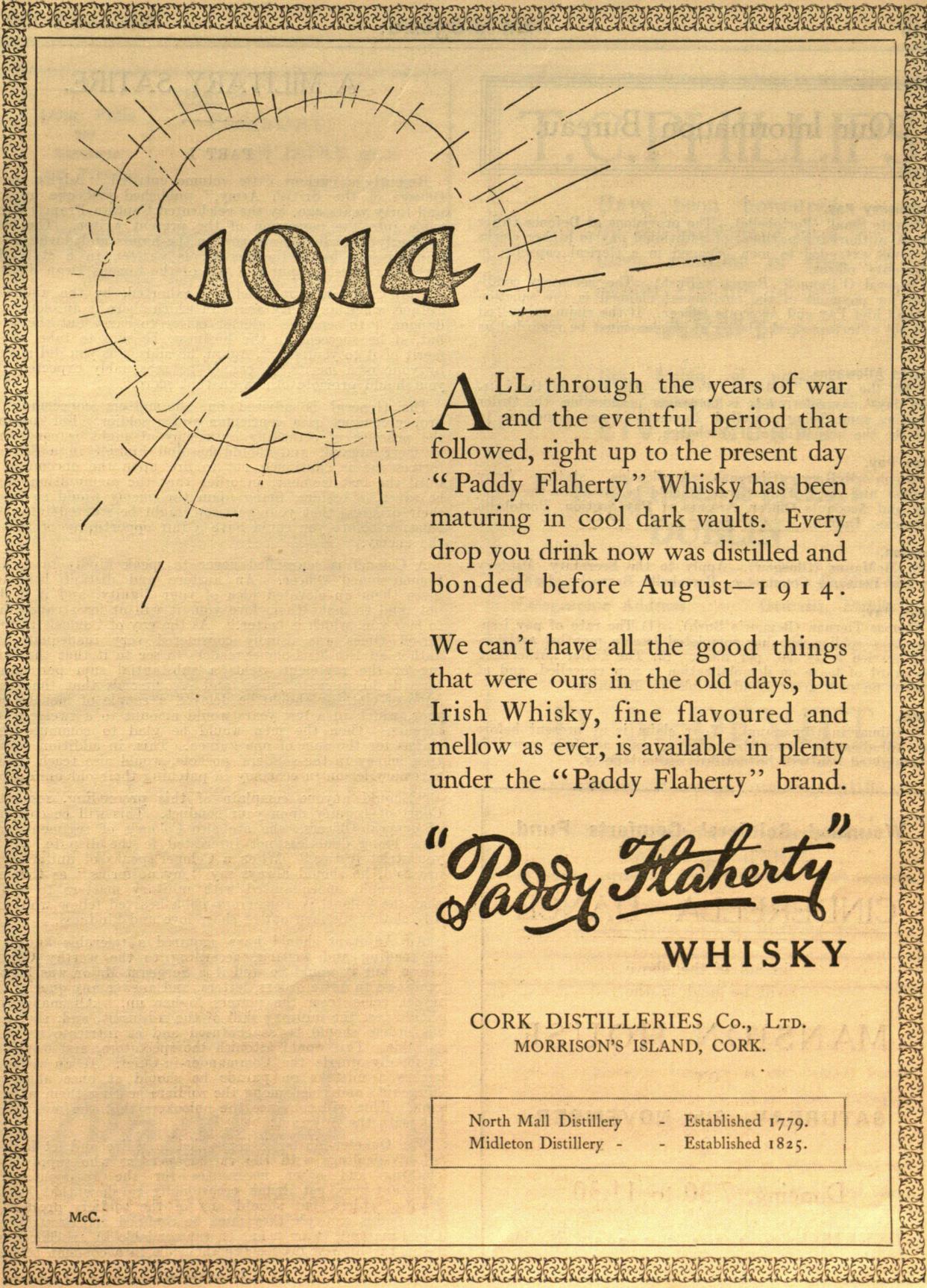
# Speed, Power Acceleration and Reliability

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1914

ALL through the years of war and the eventful period that followed, right up to the present day "Paddy Flaherty" Whisky has been maturing in cool dark vaults. Every drop you drink now was distilled and bonded before August—1914.

We can't have all the good things that were ours in the old days, but Irish Whisky, fine flavoured and mellow as ever, is available in plenty under the "Paddy Flaherty" brand.

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MORRISON'S ISLAND, CORK.

North Mall Distillery	-	Established 1779.
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McC.

## Our Information Bureau.

### Proficiency Pay.

Private Small (Portobello).—The provisions of Defence Order No. 30 authorising payment of additional pay to higher clerks were not extended to men engaged in a clerical capacity in Adjutants' offices.

Corporal O'Donnell (Beggars' Bush).—The necessary conditions for payment of the emolument claimed is the sanction of the Chief Pay and Accounts Officer. If the claim submitted was not entertained, the latter's decision must be regarded as final.

### Ration Allowance.

"On the Rocks" (Military Police).—The issue of the fourteen days' pay referred to is no longer permissible, the Order granting same being cancelled. Payment is now issued up to and for the actual date of discharge.

### Back Pay.

Joseph McRory (Glasgow).—Application, stating Army number and date of discharge, should be made to the Chief Pay and Accounts Officer, Arrears of Pay Section, Portobello Barracks, Dublin.

### Pension.

E. McManus (Glasgow).—Apply to the Secretary, Military Service Pensions Committee, Portobello Barracks, Dublin.

### Rank Pay.

Thomas Tiernan (Beggars' Bush).—(1) The rate of pay issuable to a soldier who has completed twelve months' satisfactory service is 2s. 9d. per diem. (2) The Order authorising the grant of leave on demobilization is now cancelled, and at present no such grant is admissible on discharge.

### Claim.

T. Gilmartin (Buncrana).—Your claim is at present before the Adjudication Committee, and as soon as their award is promulgated you will be notified without delay.

## Wounded Soldiers' Comforts Fund.



## CINDERELLA DANCE

in aid of the above  
will be held in the

## MANSION HOUSE

ON

SATURDAY, 8th NOVEMBER.



Dancing, 7.30 to 11.30.

TICKETS . . . . . 2s. 6d.

## A MILITARY SATIRE.

### PART I.

Recently a curious little volume entitled "Advice to the Officers of the British Army," published just one hundred and forty years ago, by the celebrated Captain Francis Grose, came into the possession of the present writer. The book, evidently intended as a satire on the habits and duties of the military nabobs of the period, is written in a style that forcibly recalls the pungent wit of the famous Dean Swift.

The Commander-in-Chief is exhorted, by the audacious author, when any duty arises in which there is an element of danger, "to send an inferior officer to carry out the work, but, if he succeeds in the business, be sure to take all the merit of it to yourself." Again, he adds, "as you did not rise by your own merits, it cannot be reasonably expected that you should promote others on that score."

The General is advised on all matters concerning his proper conduct as a gentleman and a soldier. For instance, the practice of attacking an enemy at night is condemned as most uncivil, and should he find himself in a besieged fortress he is cautioned not to fire upon the oncoming foe until the last moment, in order that the ammunition might be saved, "besides, firing upon the enemy would so retard their progress that your garrison might be starved into capitulation before you could have a fair opportunity of beating the enemy."

A Colonel is counselled never to speak kindly to a Non-Commissioned Officer. An austere and distant behaviour gives them an elevated idea of your dignity, and if it does not tend to make them love you, it will at least cause them to fear you, which is better." As the pay of Colonels in those far-off times was usually considered very inadequate, the author advises his Colonel-readers to see to it that the clothing of the regiment yields a substantial sum per annum towards his private purse, and recommends that the yearly issue of clothing should be delayed a couple of months each year, which in a few years would amount to a twelve-month arrears. Then the men would be glad to commute their claims for the sum of one guinea. This, in addition to putting money in the soldiers' pockets, would also teach them a necessary lesson in economy in patching their old uniforms.

"Should anyone complain of this proceeding, request a Court of Inquiry upon your conduct. This will be composed of general Officers, who are also Colonels of regiments, and who, being doubtless not interested in the dispute, will do you strict justice." When a Colonel speaks of uniforms, we are told, he should always say "my uniforms," as that will lead people unacquainted with military matters to believe that the Colonel is a generous noble-hearted fellow who actually clothes his men out of sheer love and kindness.

An Adjutant should have acquired a tolerable knowledge of reading and writing, according to the worthy Captain Grose, but it would be well if a Sergeant-Major was kept in readiness to write orders, letters, and answer any queries that might come from the powers higher up. All manoeuvres should test the military skill of the Adjutant, and, therefore, his orders should be as confused and as intricate as at all possible. This would astonish the spectators, and would undoubtedly puzzle the Commander-in-Chief. If an Adjutant makes a mistake on parade he should at once abuse the Sergeant, and ride among the soldiers beating them with his cane. This will convince the onlookers that the mistake lay not with the Adjutant.

The Quarter-Master is counselled to "live and let live" in all his dealings with the various persons who supply food, clothing and other necessaries for the regiment. The Adjutant may get drunk occasionally to show that he is a man of spirit, but should any of the soldiers presume to imitate his example they must be confined and brought to a Court-martial, "for, what is commendable in an Officer may be in the highest degree reprehensible in a common soldier."

(To be continued.)

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## ḡAOLUINN DO'N ARM.

CHESS—(Continued).

## ḡAOLUINN.

Deimtear na píir tuata t'aimniú ó'n rí, an baimríogán aḡus na píosaí eile a baineann leo so.

ḡEAR AN RÍOḡ A TUGTAR AR AN ḡPEAR TUATA A BÍONN AR AḡARÓ AN RÍOḡ AMAC.

AR AN ḡCUMA ḡSCÉATONA TUGTAR ḡEAR NA BAIMRÍOḡNA, ḡEAR CAISTEÁM AN RÍOḡ, ḡEAR EASBUIḡ NA BAIMRÍOḡNA, ḡEAR RÍOIRE AN RÍOḡ, ḡRL.

TUGTAR AIMM AN RÍOSA DO'N SRAÍḡ DE ḡEAR-NOḡAIB A BÍONN AR AḡARÓ AN RÍOSA, AḡUS DEIMTEAR IAD T'UIMRÍÚ Ó'N A HAON ḡO TÍ A HOCT AMAC Ó'N ḡPÍOSA.

TUGTAR AON AR AN ḡSCÉARNÓḡ AR A MBÍONN AN RÍOSA PÉIN. AON AN RÍOḡ, AON EASBUIḡ AN RÍOḡ, AON RÍOIRE NA BAIMRÍOḡNA, AON CAISTEÁM AN RÍOḡ 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 RÍOIRE AN RÍOḡ, ḡRL.

BÍONN NA HUMREACA CASTA TIMḡEALL DO RÉIR TAC NA BÍOSA AḡUS DEIMEANN AN TIMIRḡEOIR CÓNIREAIB A MAC Ó NA ÉAOḡ PÉIN.

AN RI TUB, CUIR I ḡCÁS, BÍONN SÉ IN AON AN RÍOḡ I TOSAC AN ÉLUICE. (TÓ TRÍ AN RÍOḡ ḡRL. A TUGTAR AR NA CEARNOḡAIB MUIARÓ A CÉILE).

## PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION.

Dintur nuff irr thooha danim noo oen ree, a voun reen issna pee see ella wannun loesu.

Farra ree a thughtur erra var thooha veen err eyeg a ree mock.

Erra guma gaina thughtur farna boun reena, far kish lawna ree, far ass bwig oun reena, far riddira ree, etc.

Thughtur annima feessa dhun sroh deh yar noegiv a veen err eyeg a feessa iss dintur eudh div roo oena hain gud dee a hucktha mock oe'n beessa.

Thughtur ain erra gar noeg erra meena peessa fain, aina ree, ain ass bwig a ree, ain riddira nub oun reena, ain kish lawna ree 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 riddira ree etc.

Been nuh hivrucka kosstha teempul dur air dah nub beessa iss dinun a timir hoer coreuvva mock oena tayv fain.

A ree dhuv kirra gauss been shay in naina ree idh ussock a kliha, dhoe, tree a ree, etc., thughtur ernna kar noegiv in neega haila.

## ENGLISH.

The pawns are named from the king, queen and the other pieces associated with them.

The king's pawn is the name by which the pawn in front of the king is known.

In like manner we have queen's pawn, king's castle's pawn, queen's bishop's pawn, king's knight's pawn, etc.

The name of the piece is given to the row of squares in front of the piece, and they are numbered from one to eight out from the piece.

The square on which the piece is placed is one, king's one, king's bishop's one, queen's knight's one, king's castle one, king's knight's (etc.) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

The numbers are reversed according to the colour of the pieces and the player counts out from his own side.

The black king, for instance, is in king's one in the beginning of the game. (King's two, three, etc., are the names of the squares one after the other).

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