

THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

Their First World War 'Story' – September 1916

The 'Bigger' Picture

The Home Front

The impact of the Somme was still being felt, with 'Telegram Boys' still regularly visiting homes across the country, casualties continuing to arrive and being released on sick leave from hospitals prior to rejoining their regiments, and reinforcement drafts going to France to make good losses.

The Somme film was still showing and attracting much interest.

The war was also being 'brought home' by German airship raids in North London and Essex.

Shipping losses are at their highest and shortages are being felt.

Diplomatic

- Bulgaria declares war on Rumania.
- Russian and British Governments conclude Sykes-Picot agreement as to eventual partition of Asia Minor.
- Compulsory Military Service Bill in New Zealand comes into operation.
- Greek Premier resigns, new Greek Ministry formed. M Venizelos and Admiral Condouriotis announce formation of Greek Provisional Government in Crete in opposition to the Government at Athens.

The Western Front

Battles on the Somme continue:

- Battle of Guillemont
- Battles of Delville Wood and Pozieres end.
- Battle of Ginchy.
- Battle of Flers-Courcelette begins. Tanks in action for the first time.
- Battle of Morval.
- Battle of Thiepval Ridge.

Development of the tank began in the summer of 1915. The idea was to combine caterpillar tracks with an armour protected body that could traverse wire and trenches. The first tanks manned by a crew of four had armament of two cannon mounted on its sides; it lumbered along at three miles an hour. The crew suffered in an atmosphere that was unbearably hot, dusty, noisy, and the air filled with the nauseating stench of petrol fumes.

The new weapon made its battlefield debut on September 15, 1916 when fifty of the machines joined the Battle of the Somme, at Flers-Courcelette in a third attempt to attack and break through the German defences. The attack failed - no breakthrough occurred. Due to mechanical breakdown and 'bogging in' not all of the tanks actually took part in the battle. However their presence shocked the enemy, but their practical impact was minimal due to a lack of effective tactics and numerous mechanical failures. General Douglas Haig, Commander of Allied Forces at the Somme, saw the promise of this new instrument of war and ordered the war department to produce hundreds more.

A Mark I tank on the Somme
Battlefield,
September, 1916



Other Fronts

EASTERN FRONT

RUMANIA

- Sibiu (Transylvania) taken by Rumanian forces; city later retaken by Austrian forces
- Orsova (Hungary) occupied by Rumanian forces.
- German and Bulgarian forces invade the Dobrudja.
 - Tutrakan taken by Bulgarian forces.
 - Silistra taken by German and Bulgarian forces.

BALKANS

- Albanian Government of Essad Pasha set up in Salonika.
- Greek IVth Army Corps at Kavala surrenders voluntarily to German forces.

ITALIAN FRONT

- Seventh Battle of the Isonzo.

EAST AFRICA

- Dar es Salaam (German East Africa) surrenders to British forces.
- British pursuit of retreating German force in East Africa checked at Affair of Kisaki
- Kilwa, on East African coast, occupied by British naval forces.
- Lindi, on East African coast, occupied by British naval forces.
- Tabora (capital of German East Africa) occupied by Belgian forces

ARABIA

- Turkish garrison of Taif (Hejaz) surrenders to Arab forces.

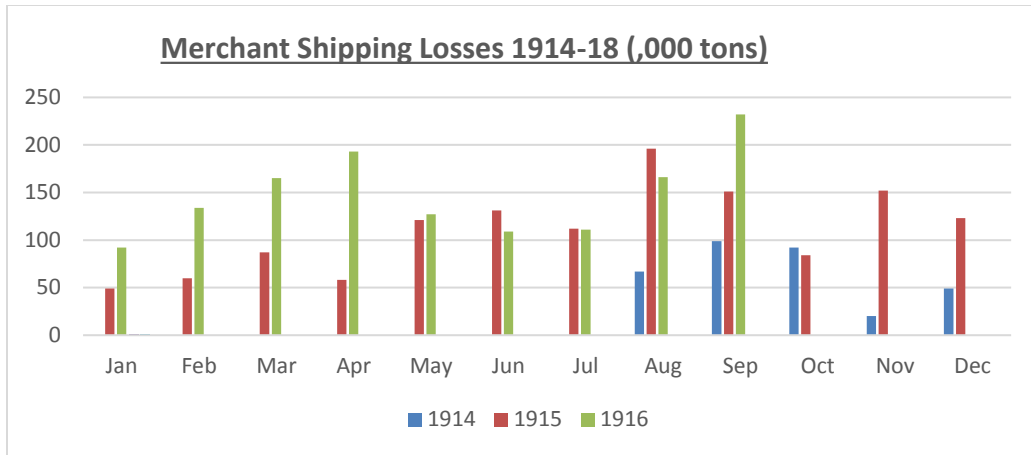
At Sea

MERCHANT SHIPPING

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month - 180 ships of 232,000 tons gross.

SS Newby sunk by U35 in the Mediterranean





AEGEAN

- Allies commence blockade of Greek Macedonian coast from mouth of the Struma to mouth of the Mesta.
- German ships in Piraeus harbour seized by the Allies.

In The Air

- German raid by fourteen airships (greatest number to attack simultaneously) on London and other parts of England. Airship SL-11 destroyed by aeroplane at Cuffley. The SL 11 was built by Luftschiffbau Schütte-Lanz and thus, was not classed as a Zeppelin. Based at Spich and commanded by Hauptmann Wilhelm Schramm, in the early hours of September 3, 1916, after having bombed Saint Albans, it was attacked over Hertfordshire by Lt William Leefe Robinson in a BE 2C, using incendiary ammunition. It crashed at Cuffley, with the loss of the entire crew. Leefe Robinson was awarded the Victoria Cross.
- Airship raid on England (East Coast and London) involving serious casualties (170, mostly civilian); L-32 destroyed by aeroplane at Billericay; L-33 brought down by gunfire in Essex (night 23rd/24th).



Wreckage of SL11

- Air co-operation with tanks instituted by the British Air Force.
- Krupp works at Essen bombed by French aeroplanes.

The 'Herefords'

Casualties

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO	Bn	Coy	DATE	HOW	WHERE	HOMETOWN	Notes (Serving with)
DUFF GORDON	COSMO LEWIS	LT				03/09/1916	KIA	France	KINGTON	MGC 13
WOOD	WG	SGT				08/09/1916	DOW	France	KETTERING	CHESHIRE1/5

Both were killed in France, on 'The Somme'; Lt Duff-Gordon had been transferred to the Machine Gun Corps; both had probably been posted to units in France to make good losses.



The headstone of Lt Duff-Gordon in Delville Wood Cemetery

Honours & Awards

Publicaion Date			Rank	Regtl No	Regtl No	Nature of Award
25/09/16	Herbert	Stephen Charles	QMS	780	235055	Mention In Despatches
25/09/16	Rogers	Edward Thomas Percy	Capt			Mention In Despatches

I have other names to bring to notice for distinguished and gallant service during the operations under review, and these will form the subject of a separate communication.

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,
 Your most obedient Servant,
 A. J. MURRAY, General,
 Commander-in-Chief,
 Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

General Headquarters,
 1st July, 1916.

Sir,
 In accordance with the closing paragraph of my despatch of 1st June, 1916, I have the honour to submit a list of the names of these officers, non-commissioned officers and men whose services I consider deserving of special mention, and I beg to recommend them to your notice.

I will, at a later date, submit to you a further list of names of officers, non-commissioned officers and men, belonging to the Salonika Army, whom I desire to mention in despatches and recommend for reward.

I have the honour to be,
 Your most obedient Servant,
 A. J. MURRAY, General,
 Commander-in-Chief,
 Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Herefordshire Regiment.

Rogers, Capt. E. T. P.
 Herbert, No. 780 Qmr.-Srjt. S. C.

A HEREFORDIAN RECOMMENDED.

Quartermaster-Serjt. S. C. Herbert is a Herefordian. His residence is at Wye View Villas, Riverside, Hereford. He also served through the Gallipoli campaign. He went through it untouched, taking on the duties of Lieut. R. W. Roberts as Quartermaster when that officer was wounded and returned to England. Quartermaster-Serjt. Herbert is a son of Mr. J. G. and Mrs. Herbert, and was educated at Broome Hill Academy. He was in the office of Mr. R. Moore, St. John Street, before the regiment was mobilised. Mr. Stephen A. Herbert, the registrar of births, deaths, and marriages, is his uncle. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert's soldier son stands over 6ft. high; he is only 24 years of age, and has been in the Territorial Force several years. He was home about six weeks ago at the expiry of his original term of service, and has so far been through both campaigns without a scratch. He is believed to be the first soldier (apart from commissioned officers) in St. Martin's parish to be mentioned in despatches: Capt. A. J. G. Bird, D.S.O., and Lieut. C. P. Evill are names which come to mind among officers who have gained distinction. Formerly he was in the parish church choir, and also took an active interest in the Young Men's Club. His younger brother, George Wilson Herbert, is a sapper in the R.E., and expects shortly to go to the front.

Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)

Publication Date			Detail	Effective Date	Remarks
01/09/1916	Knight	JFC	relinquishes commission	02/09/16	ill health
02/09/1916	Drage	G	to be lieutenant colonel	06/05/16	
04/09/1916	Hinckes	RT	To be second lieutenant	23/08/16	TF Res
06/09/1916	Boulton	RG	relinquishes commission	07/09/16	ill health
07/09/1916	Kelly	CC	relinquishes rank of captain	25/05/16	vacating Bde Bombing Offr post
08/09/1916	Mogridge	Edward C	To be second lieutenant	05/09/16	
09/09/1916	Carver	WL	to be captain	28/07/16	
13/09/1916	Greenly	JHM	appointed staff	28/06/16	
14/09/1916	Morrish	Cyril CG	To be second lieutenant	05/09/16	
15/09/1916	Bellamy	AL	to be lieutenant	28/08/16	
15/09/1916	Meehan	CF	to be lieutenant	28/08/16	
18/09/1916	Greenly	JHM	seconded to Ministry of Munitions	28/06/16	
25/09/1916	Marshall	A	To be second lieutenant	05/09/16	
25/09/1916	Yates	RG	to be major	06/05/16	
27/09/1916	Foster	Arthur W	to be Comdt Herefordshire Volunteer Regt		late Shropshire Yeo
29/09/1916	Duff-Gordon	CL	to be lieutenant	06/07/16	MGC
29/09/1916	Fanning	WG	to be lieutenant	06/07/16	MGC

MAJOR J. H. M. GREENLY.

In Major J. H. M. Greenly, who is the first Herefordshire officer to be officially connected with the Ministry of Munitions, his many friends will recognise a son of Mr. E. H. Greenly, of Titley Court, and a brother of Brigadier-General W. H. Greenly, C.M.G., D.S.O. From the end of May last year until the following August he acted as Brigade Major of the Welsh Border Infantry Brigade, and though his connection with the Reserve Herefords was not entirely severed during this period, his loss was greatly felt in the second battalion, with the organisation and training of which he had been so intimately associated. It was early in the month of August that he became Staff Captain, and it will be noticed that in the new post to which he is now gazetted he is graded for pay as a staff captain at the War Office. He enjoys to an uncommon degree the goodwill and esteem of all ranks in the County Regiment, his energy and marked capabilities as an officer being highly valued.

HEREFORD

Depot functions continue.



The Barracks was in Harold St (now the vacated County Records Office/Suvla Barracks) and the Drill Hall was in Friar St (now the site of the Military Club).

It would appear that the method of recruiting and initial training was changing, with central training battalions being formed and administration being conducted centrally on a 'regimental basis. The Herefordshire Regt was part of the Corps of the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI) and the KSLI Manning Office took increasingly more responsibility for the administration of the Herefords. There are therefore fewer direct recruits to the Herefords. The Hereford Times lists some 40 recruits to the 3/1st Bn and gives their home towns – few of them are from Herefordshire, and many of the names do not feature in the Herefordshire Regiment's rolls – indicating they probably went overseas with another Battalion.



"MISSING" AND IN HOSPITAL.

HEREFORD AND LLANDRINDOD MAN ENJOYS CONCERTS.

Officially reported missing on August 31st, Corpl. P. A. Powell, of the 1st Herefords, has actually been in hospital and convalescent camp since August 14th, and has during this period written thrice to Hereford. Apparently there was some "missing information" between the base and the hospital. He has family connections at Hereford and Llandrindod.

It will be remembered that it was stated in last week's *Hereford Times* that Pte. Roden, of Hampton Street, Hereford, who was reported missing on the same date, is also ill in hospital.

Corpl. Powell's last letter was dated September 8th. He first says he is better, but not well by a long way. Inquiring of the casualty lists of the Herefords in the papers, he says: "I am afraid there is a heavy roll. I knew a good many of them. Lance-Corpl. Osborne and Lance-Corpl. Knight (both of Hereford) have been killed; both of them at the same time; they were in our ("C") Company. There doesn't seem much improvement in the war yet, and I wish it was all over, as it must make it bad for the country all over. Is the weather fine in Hereford now? It is lovely weather here: a lot cooler than it has been. We have very good food considering, and we get a concert twice a week in a big marquee. We have a piano, and we hear some good singing from the men. I have not seen my brother now for nearly a month, and I can't find out whether he is dead or alive. Nor have I heard a word from home yet. I have got one hal here from Hereford: Bill King, son of old Bill King (No. 10, Martin Street), who works for the Corporation."

This article appeared in the local newspaper and tells of Cpl Powell's time at Suvla Bay and immediately afterwards.

He and his brother William both survived the war.

And some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
BRAIN	RICHARD	PTE	307	XVI	ROSS	
CAFFULL	FRANK	PTE	4027			
CAINES	ALBERT	PTE	3031	XVI	WYCHE	
CHARITY	ARTHUR CYRIL	PTE	4453	IIICC	STOKE EDITH	
DAVIES	JOHN	PTE	2631	XVI	KINGTON	Aged 50
DAVIES	THOMAS	PTE	4478	XVI		
DEAN	JOHN A	PTE	5451	IIIC	STOCKPORT	
FARMER	ARTHUR G	PTE	2846	XVI	CHELTENHAM	
GITTOES	IVOR THOMAS	PTE	4550	(III)CC		
GUEST	GEORGE	PTE	3461	XVI		
JONES	HERBERT JAMES	SGT	331			
LANE	CHRISTOPHER GEORGE	PTE	1503	XVI WOUNDS	CINDERFORD	Wounded Suvla
MILLS	JACK	PTE	2839	SICK	BERKELEY	Wounded Suvla
MILLS	SETH	PTE	4228	2B		
PEBERDY	GEORGE FREDERICK	PTE	1602	XVI	HEREFORD	
SHENTON	JOHN	PTE	4405	XVI	BIRCHER COMMON	
STOCKER	ALBERT	PTE	3332	XVI	LEOMINSTER	
SYMONDS	THOMAS JAMES	PTE	5386		HEREFORD	
TRAVIS	ARCHIE	PTE	5103	IIICC		
TUSTIN	WILLIAM	PTE	4851	XVI		
WHITE	HENRY	PTE	1146	1B	CREDENHILL	

WILLIAMS	ARCHIBALD	PTE	3742	XVI		
WILLIAMS	WILLIAM	PTE	5500		OSWESTRY	
WOOD	SAMUEL	PTE	5496		SHREWSBURY	

xvi - unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc - unlikely to become an efficient soldier

Adm. to Pension 6 OCT. 1916

Name Albert Stocker Regimental No. 3532 Chelsea Number G7638
 E

Name Albert Stocker Pension District BOARD'S DECISION F

Regiment Kenford 1st Bn (4th F.S.F.) Pension per week

Date of Discharge 26 9 16

Age on commencement of Pension 39 yrs (Abd. Bd. (43))

Trade 7 years labourer

Address Upper Hill, St. Leonards

Character Bad Badges Kenford

Place of Birth St Leonards Kenford

Service	Primary Corp.	Class for Pension					Total
		VI.	III.	II.	I.	W.	
7 ^{1/2} Emb.							<u>1 1/2</u>
							<u>2 1/2</u>
							<u>3 1/2</u>

Date of Enlistment 3. 4. 15

Date of Mobilization 11

A.P. D400 and D450 Issues

Cause of Discharge Medically unfit Deficiency of Vies. Hallus Valgus

Report of Medical Board (dated 12. 9. 16)

Originated before enlistment at Kenford. Feet have been deformed for years past. Discharged from Kitchener's Army 12. 11. 14. as medically unfit. Not result of, or not aggravated by military service. Permanent. Prevents to permanently.

Service towards engagement reckons from

1 st Herefordshire Regt.	Regt.	Private	3-4-15	3-4-15	
	<u>Enlisted & embodied</u>				<u>H. Mott's Coy.</u>
	<u>3/1 Awarded 11 days</u>				
	<u>(Retention forfeit 11 days pay under R. 11. for absence from all parades from all parades 10. 9. 15 to 27. 9. 15</u>			<u>10. 7. 15</u>	
	<u>Awarded 21 days detention behind 15 days pay under R. 11. for exceeding his leave from 9 a.m. 16. 8. 15 until 9. 30 a.m. 30. 8. 15</u>			<u>16. 8. 15</u>	<u>T. Cottrell Coy.</u>
	<u>Awarded 15 days detention being absent from 6.30 a.m. 24. 9. 15 until apprehended by Civil Police at Gornowice 24. 9. 15</u>			<u>28. 9. 15</u>	<u>T. Cottrell Coy.</u>
	<u>Awarded 28 days detention & forfeit 22 days pay R. 11. for being absent without leave from 5. 10. 15 till apprehended by the Civil Police at Gornowice 16. 11. 15</u>			<u>28</u>	
<u>H.H. Prov. Coy.</u>	<u>Transferred to 11th</u>			<u>11. 2. 16</u>	<u>Eggestonham Coy.</u>
	<u>Detained 14 days pay & 13 days pay under R. 11. in addition for (1) Absent without leave from mid-night 13. 4. 14 to 3 a.m. 15. 4. 14. (2) Absent without leave from 1.5. 14 to 16. until apprehended by Civil Police at 11 a.m. 26. 4. 14</u>			<u>95</u>	<u>Eggestonham Coy.</u>

Total service towards engagement in the Territorial Force to _____ (date of discharge) _____ years _____ days.

Discharged in consequence of _____

The discharge of the above-named man is hereby approved.

Station _____ Signature _____

Date _____ 1916

* In the case of Annual Training it will be sufficient to state if "Present" or "Absent" and the year.

Pte Stocker was, it would seem not a natural soldier!

As can be seen from his service record, he frequently absented himself from duty!

Army Form B. 268A. TERRITORIAL FORCE. Proceedings on Discharge during the period of Embodiment.

When forwarded for confirmation these proceedings should be accompanied by the documents specified on the 4th page.

No. 5151. Rank Private. Name *P.A.*

Corps of Territorial Force 2nd LINE 1st BATT. THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGT.

Battalion, Battery, Company, Depot, Etc. 4th Company

Date of discharge 2nd September 1916.

Place of discharge *Stratford Camp, Redford*

1. Description of time of Discharge.

Age 38 years 11 months. Height 5 feet 2 inches. Chest measurement 39 in. range of expansion 25 in. Complexion fair. Eyes grey. Hair bald. Trade *book binder*. Intended place of residence *5 Romney Rd, 4th Street, Redford*.

2. The above-named man is discharged in consequence of *not being likely to become an efficient soldier on Medical Grounds under para. 392 III C.R.*

3. Military Character *Good.*

4. Character awarded in accordance with King's Regulations: *Being so short this man has been under my command he has always been able, honest & trustworthy*

5. Certified that the above is an accurate copy of the character given by me on Army Form B. 203.

Army Form B. 2512. SHORT SERVICE. ATTESTATION OF

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? *Thomas James Symonds*

2. What is your full Address? *22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.*

3. Are you a British Subject? *Yes*

4. What is your Age? *27* Years *11* Months

5. What is your Trade or Calling? *Book binder*

6. Are you Married? *No*

HEREFORD SUB-AREA. Received Armet No. *253910* also Leaflet A.F. W. 3208.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION. I, *Thomas James Symonds* swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the General and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER. The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act. The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at *Hereford* on this *21st* day of *February* 1916.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the *HEREFORDSHIRE* REGIMENT. It enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation. Date *June 28th 1916*. *Edw. G. C. P. H.* Approving Officer. Place *Hereford*.

Pte Dean was one of many of the Derby Scheme men who were found to be unfit.

Pte Symonds was also a Derby Scheme man who was found unfit. His personal documents include the receipt for his Armet which he would have received when he registered under the Derby Scheme.

The Volunteer Bn

The Volunteer Bn continued to expand and recruit:

Detachment for Mordiford District.

A detachment of the Hereford Company of the Herefordshire Volunteer Regiment has been formed for the district covering Mordiford, Hampton Bishop, Fownhope, Woolhope, Dornington, and Holme Lacy, and further recruits are desired.

1st Battalion

The Battalion recovered to the area of Ferdan and took up a defensive position on the Western bank of the Suez Canal.

From the history of the 53rd Division:

Ferdan was the home 158 Bde for the next 3 months. Battalions were some miles apart, but though Ferdan was nothing but a ferry and a swingbridge, a certain amount of comfort was obtained through 'security of tenure', in that Brig Mott decided it was not worthwhile rotating troops about locations. Those on the edge of the canal would sit on the banks in the cool of the evening and watch large steamers, with all lights on, orchestras playing and ladies singing. Passengers would throw tins of cigarettes to the soldiers swimming in the canal. All ranks bathed daily. The weather was generally cooler and consistent. In the mornings a slight breeze blew from the South west, and dropped about 7 am; from 7 to 9am seemed the hottest of the day, then the breeze came from the North until 7 pm when it was still through the night.

The routine may have been repetitive, but there were compensations with trips to Port Said and Ismailia and their hotels, cafes and clubs.

One curious duty was to keep the 'track swept'. A strip of sand parallel to the canal was swept with branches each evening and inspected each morning to detect signs of any movement.

Date	Location	Detail
1 Sep		Inspection of Gundegai and Kimbla by OC Sub-Section.
9 Sep		Received information that Battalion would shortly be relieved. 2Lt A Wilson and garrison of Katimba 3 left post which was to be abandoned and went to Katimba 2.
10 Sep		Work carried on. Received appointments, commissions and rewards list no 192 with the following decorations from His Majesty The King of Serbia: Capt E T B Rogers - White Eagles 5 th Class Capt F G Barker - Karegeorge with Swords 5 th Class 1822 Pte R Harman - Gold Medal
13 Sep		Capt E A Capel joined HQ in the evening having vacated position of acting brigade major. Battalion paraded at 5.15am marched to Moascar, arrived about 7am, baggage sent by motor transport. Battalion lay in open near railway line. Commenced loading train at midday. Left Moascar by rail 1pm, arrived El Ferdan 3.45pm. Met by OC 1 st Black Watch. Regiment marched up to camp on canal bank on East side, Battalion accommodated in some empty sheds.
24 Sep	El Ferdan	Draft of 58 men joined Battalion from England; war rejoined first line men.

25 Sep		Work on defences, training also musketry course started. Anti-typhoid inoculations of men who had been inoculated 6 months practically completed.
		Received appointments, commissions and rewards list number 200 with the following decoration from His Majesty The Czar of Russia: 1887 Cpl E E Mann - Medal of St George 3 rd Class Silver

These Foreign Awards were not published in the London Gazette until February 1917.

WAR DIARY
1st HEREFORDSHIRE REGT
September 1916

APPENDIX I
Weekly State

Week ending		Officers	Other Ranks
2.9.16		29	791
9.9.16		30	789
16.9.16		29	799
23.9.16		29	794
30.9.16		28	841

APPENDIX II
Weekly Casualty Return

Week ending		Killed		Hospital
		O. O.R.	O. O.R.	
2.9.16				1 - 16
9.9.16				13
16.9.16				14
23.9.16				10
30.9.16				1 - 12

APPENDIX III
Reinforcements etc

Capt W.L. Barrow proceeded on leave to England 27.8.16
 2/Lt G. Wilmot ditto
 Draft of 58 Other ranks arrived from England 24.9.16
 2/Lt W.A. Hopkin To Hospital 28.8.16
 " G. L. Lloyd do 24.9.16
 2/Lt R.W. Rowe From Hospital 7.9.16

Notification of the safe arrival of the draft on 24 September was acknowledged in The Hereford Times.



2Lt Parker

13 Sept

Through Ismalia about 5 miles (It was 9 miles march yesterday). Had breakfast and lunch and rested generally, entertaining for Ferdon at 4.p.m. C Coy on fatigues until 9.30 -very tired -slept in a hut.

14 Sept

We are relieving the 1st West Indian Regt here, and they have a splendid camp here, and laid on a splendid dinner first night. Gunfire. Tea at 6.30 breakfast at 9 .Nothing much doing in the morning. Received parcel and letters from Wyndham (brother) and Father Foster did not come here, but went to hospital at Ferry Post. Had a bathe at 6.

15th Sept

Reveille at 4 am was rather late on parade, which was at 5 till 7, but was on before Bn. was up. Did Coy drill. Moved on to tents. Cyril and I are sharing one. From 4 to 6 C Coy went down to look at the trenches, on which we shall be working, and was I/C bathing parade at 9.30. Had a doze in the afternoon.

16th September

Was up in better time. Arms drill & a little Coy drill 5 till 7, and 8 till 9 was Bn drill under Drage, who has returned to Regt. Pretty stiff & I think pretty well done in. No fatigue in afternoon, but I was busy with some letters and making out returns of deficiencies. After tea at 3.30, I had a bathe at 5.45. Padre Lloyd returned to Regt in place of Jones, who goes to 6th RWF A lot of ships pass down the canal, particularly at night. Temp 106 very oppressive. Had a bad pain in the middle of the night.

17th Sunday

Reveille at 5. Breakfast at 7.15. Bathe. Church parade 7.45. Was Coy OO Wrote a long letter to Father No parade today. Censored a lot of letters and posted them. Cyril and I strolled down to the EEF canteen after tea and made a few purchases. Cyril received a parcel today.

18th September

Up in time Weapons and Coy drill. Coy drill 8-9 Most of our Coy on Guard duty. Received a long letter from Geoff and a couple of Photos. A fine cruiser Euralyus' passed down the canal today. Took bathing parade 9-10. Evelyn and I strolled round the earthworks 4-6, finishing with a drink at the canteen. Cyril went to Signallers. Lecture from CO. after lunch. Did not bathe.

19th Sept

Was up in good time. 5-7 Guard and saluting. 8-9 Bn drill under CO Wrote to Mother. It has got much colder in the evenings now. I did not bathe again today. Censored a lot of letters and finished 'The father of Scarlet' - about time too. 4-6 inspected my platoon's clothes.

20 Sept

5-7 Coy and Platoon drill. 8-9 Bn. drill under CO. Censored a few letters. Had an hour's kip in the afternoon 4-6 Coy in FMO Inspection, which was good. Had a bathe at 6p.m. It was very cold & I did not stay in long

21st Sept

Section drill under NCOs and Platoon drill under Sergeants. 8-9 Bn. under C.O. Was Coy OO today, taking Bathing parade 9.30 till 10. Censored letters, had a bathe at 6. 4-6 Inspection of Coy in FMO, ready for inspection by CO on Saturday

22nd Sept

Parade 5-7 doing platoon and Coy drill and from a short Bn. drill under CO. Did not bathe today. Fatigues 4-6, when we sent in several returns and inspected all men, employed or otherwise in the Coy. Coy on guard duty.

23 Sept

CO and Major Green inspected B Coy in full marching order at 6.A.M. At beginning of week I heard my brother had

been slightly wounded in France. Howard Graves also wounded. Got up at 4. Only Wimp and I in Coy. Was Company OO taking bathing parade 8.30-10 & medical inspection at 11 Part of Co'y inoculated for T.A.B. -Cyril done Whittaker returned from Zeitoun where he has taken a Lewis gun course. He got 'D' The Sidi Bishr contingent returned minus Pop Lloyd, who is still in hospital. Pilkington had a fit at the station. A draft arrived at Sidi Bishr, - no mail (as expected). Had a bathe cutting my arm.

24th September

Church Parade in YMCA hut; censored a lot of letters. Capt Holman and Charlton have gone to SIDI RI SIR for a week. Commenced letter to Father, but did not finish it owing to parade. Received a lot of mags and some papers and magazines.

25th

Was Bn. OO being about early and was inspecting breakfast. I went round lines after attending parade. Visited guards 1.30 till 3, mounted new guards at 5. Felt rotten today and am afraid I have a chill coming on. Another mail in Letters from F&M parcel (cake, socks, body-belt, biscuits, toffee etc). Went round guard at night - bed at midnight

September 26th

Was in charge of fatigue party on No 93 work in our front about 1000 yards 5.30 - 8.30. Breakfast at 9. Kit and General inspection at 1. My cold somewhat better today. Finished letter to Father, which I had commenced on Sunday. Took remnant of Coy on parade 4 -6. Heard a rumour that I was going on a course to Zeitoun next week. Had a long chat with Sgt Maj Page after dinner.

27th

I/C of fatigue party on No 93 again at 5.30. Breakfast. Attended Coy Orderly room. The doctor brought me a camera from Port Said yesterday. Heard that Foster had had a temperature of 105 and had nearly pegged out. Coy Parade 5-6

28th

5.30-8.30 fatigues building up redoubt with sand bags. My name was on orders to go to Zeitoun. Took my camera with me and some photos. My cold somewhat better, Coy parade 4-6 Echelon position -wonder of wonders. We had a shower at 3 only a few drops. Parade 4-6.

29th

I/C fatigue works on 93 5.30- 8.30. Took camera with me, taking two or three snaps there. Cyril got leave to Port- Said till Sunday and left at 2.P.M. Took charge of Coy On clothing parade -all company on guard, so no parade 4-6. Censored a few letters. A P&O ship passed before dinner.

Maj ALB Green

Date	Location	Detail
1 Sep		Met OC Sector at Gundagai at 0700 and came on to Kimbla with him afterwards.
2 Sep		Went into Tomailia to pay up mess debts. Had lunch at club. First Christian meal since July 18 th . Felt rather seedy in evening.
3 Sep		Went over to Gundagai in morning. Feeling very rotten. Went to bed early with temperature.
4 Sep		Stayed in bed all day, temperature 101.
5 Sep		Feeling better and temperature down. Got up and nosed around a bit.

6 Sep		Still feeling very cheap, but managed to get round a bit on a horse. Colonel came round.
7 Sep		Nothing much doing. R W Reeve rejoined after being away about 5 months with his knee.
8 Sep		My wedding day. The third I have been away from home for now.
9 Sep		Hear we are to be relieved shortly.
10 Sep		The 159 Brigade take over sub section commencing tomorrow, 5 Welsh Regt to relieve us.
11 Sep		Lt Col Pridham came up this evening to look round before taking over tomorrow.
12 Sep		5 Welsh Regt arrived about 0700 and took over. We marched straight to staging camp where we bivouaced over night.
13 Sep		Marched to Moascar at 0500. Spent most of day loading and unloading lorries, trains etc. Left Moascar at 1700 arrived El Ferdan at 1740. Were met by Fife band of 1 BWI Regt who played us into camp. Lt Col Wood-Hill and officers entertained us to dinner.
14 Sep		Splendid camp on East bank of canal. Mess right on bank with verandah. Lovely bathing. Plenty of guards and picquets.
15 Sep		Settling down.
16 Sep		Settling down.
17 Sep		Rode out to find a rifle range with Capel.
18 Sep		Was to have gone to Tomailia to get mess stores but had to sit on a board so Russell went instead.
19 Sep		Went to Port Said to get mess stores etc. Had a pleasant day. Travelled up with Satow MO of 5 RWF. Lunch and tea at casino, dinner on train returning.
20 Sep		Butter and ice supply started at Port Said. Had a busy day with odds and ends. Holman went to Cairo for 48 hours.
21 Sep		Nothing much doing. Mess stores arrived from Alexandria and Port Said.
22 Sep		Inspection of transport – Board of Survey. A good deal of arrears to pick up.
23 Sep		Went to Cairo for day. Long hot journey. Very rushed to get round. Saw the Burtons.
24 Sep		Church parade. Spent entire day doing mess bills. Mail arrived in evening.
25 Sep		Nothing much doing.
26 Sep		Ditto
27 Sep		Rode up and inspected the range which we started using on Friday. The BGC inspected the transport and seemed satisfied.
28 Sep		Nothing of much interest except rained sharp showers, first for over 6 months.
29 Sep		Started musketry practice in range with B Coy, grouping bad. Big Board of Survey. Rode round in evening to fix spot for Bridgehead defences.
30 Sep		ND

3820 Pte L Griffiths



Pte Griffiths with 2 other soldiers

to the ones that had just arrived from England. on July 20th we proceeded to Pantara by train at night July 23rd marched to Hill Seventy in the heat and were loaded up with ammunition as we were expecting an attack by the Turks. July 24th marched to Romania to out post line to wait for the Turks to attack which they did on August 4th and got a rather bad time of it too. but of course we lost some men as well. Aug. 13th proceeded by train to Pantara where we stayed till Aug. 24th when we went through Moscar, Ismaria to rail head Ferry Post. to do out post

duty till Sept. 13th when came back through Ismaria Moscar to El Ferdan. where we were in training and making reserves out post line trenches & trenches. Nov. 15. cross the Suez Canal to El Ferdan East. while we were at El Ferdan we were in tents. of course it was on the desert. Jan 6th 1917 we left El Ferdan to march to Romania to attack the Turks. on the 12th we went marched to through Ballah to Pantara where we slept in huts for two nights Jan 6th we went to Gilbran where we slept out in the open for the night we found it rather cold after the hot days. Jan 7th we got to Petriium which

News and clarification of the engagement of early August was still being received and published in the local newspapers.

1st HEREFORDS.

THE KING'S THANKS TO HIS SPLENDID TROOPS.

NEARLY 50 CASUALTIES.

It will be of much interest to Herefordshire people, and add to their pride in their County Regiment, to know that his Majesty the King has sent a telegram to the Officer Commanding the troops in Egypt conveying his thanks to the troops for the splendid way they behaved in the action of August 4th. "Worse than Surik Day," is the description applied by one writer to the Turkish bombardment of the 1st Herefords prior to the rest of the enemy east of the Suez Canal. Another Hereford private states that in "A" Company the only losses were two machine-guns, but that "poor old 'D' Company," which bore the brunt of the enemy shells, suffered 20 killed and 26 wounded. He was writing on August 19th, and possibly had later information than other correspondents. This bears out a communication published in the *Hereford Times* last week stating the casualties to be 47. Capt. E. A. Capel had previously given the number of killed as 12, and the wounded as 26. We are now able to publish two further letters referring to Ser.-Lieut. G. L. Wallis, which tell of the circumstances under which this gallant officer was wounded, and how he was taken to hospital, presumably after having his wounds dressed, by his men over a distance of two and a half miles. That an R.A.M.C. officer was on the spot is shown by the letter which Lieut.-Colonel Symonds-Taylor read before the Reserve Battalion, for the writer of it stated: "How our poor old doctor managed to survive all shells and yet attend all the awful cases I don't know. He simply must have been imbued with a courage divine." Capt. Capel, who has found time to write several very nice letters to the parents of the fallen or wounded, states that Ser.-Lieut. Wallis was "digging men out who had been buried by a shell," when he was struck, and in a sympathetic communication to the father of Pte. Norman Marshall, says his company "lost a number of good fellows." Lieut. G. L. Wallis also writes of Pte. Marshall, although in hospital himself, as being "one of the most willing and reliable of men." Since our last list a few more casualties have been notified, as given below:—

THE KING'S THANKS.

Pte. B. H. Warrington, of A Co., describes the fight, as he experienced it, in a letter to his mother, Mrs. Warrington, Ford Villa, Breinton. He says: "On Wednesday, July 19th, we were aroused, and had orders to move from our camp by 1.30 a.m.; this we did with all our kit ready. We travelled by train until 8.30 a.m. on the Thursday. On the same night we moved off across the Suez Canal, a distance of ten miles, and then rested till the Friday night, of course sleeping out in the open on the 'beautiful' sand, with all our kit on. We did the same distance again on the Friday night, and entrained again on the Saturday morning up to the trenches.

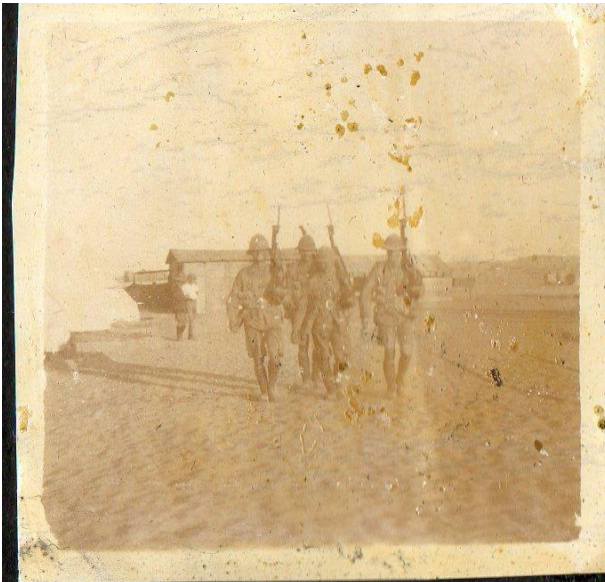
"The first week here was not very exciting, except for a few air fights and some bombs dropped on us by Mr. Turk. The second week here commenced by a decent air-raid over our depot, and then, two days after (on August 4th) the fun commenced.

"We all awoke with a sudden start through a terrific shelling by the Turks, to find that they were advancing. This time they made a mistake and found they could not break through our splendid defences. So by the night of August 5th they had retired with severe losses. Up to the present we have about 1,800 prisoners of all sorts — Arabs, Turks, Austrians, and Germans.

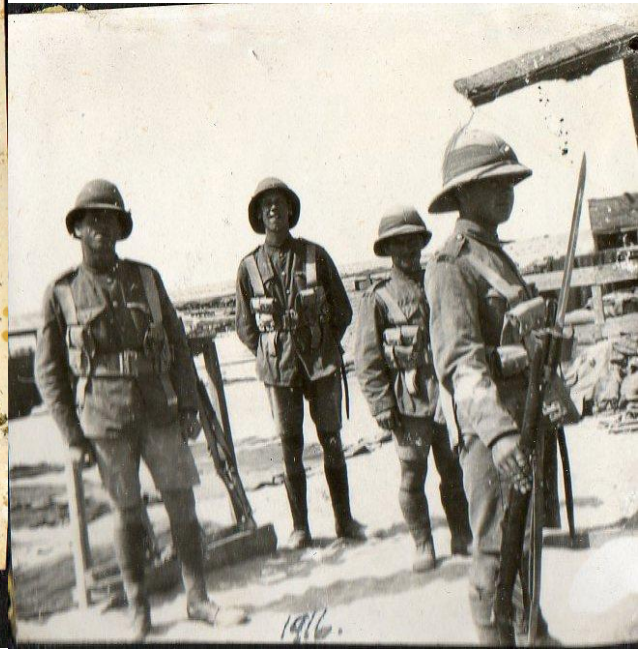
"I am glad to say our company had no losses except for two machine-guns. Poor old D Co. had to bear the brunt, and their losses were 20 killed and 26 wounded.

"By the way, yesterday (August 9th) we had a telegram from his Majesty the King conveying his thanks to us for the splendid way all the troops behaved."

The following are a series of photographs thought to have been taken in Autumn 1916.



Ferdan Railhead.



1916.



Sports at Ferdan.



2nd Battalion

The 2nd Battalion remained in Bedford and continued to send reinforcements to France to make good losses suffered on the Somme.

2/1st HEREFORDS.

◆

ANOTHER DRAFT GONE TO FRANCE.

—

[From our own Correspondent.]

The second draft recently sent to France by the 2nd Line of the County Regiment left camp on Wednesday morning amidst much enthusiasm both from their comrades and also a large number of well wishers from the neighbouring town, who had assembled in spite of the bad weather to give them a hearty send-off. Each battalion in the Brigade had similarly sent drafts during the week, but on the previous occasion only the Herefords sent men. Each man was well provided with a good supply of smokes given them by the company officers and the "guard of honour" at the station.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONCERT.

The members of the Sergeants' Mess, as on the previous occasion, met together on the evening before the departure of the draft to say "Good-bye" and wish the members who were going "God speed." Reg. S.M. Herbert presided, and on either side were the guests of honour. An excellent programme had been arranged by Sergt. F. Beavan, and the concert was a great success. The following items were given: Pianoforte solo, Sergt. Martin; song, "The King's Own," C.Q.M.S. John; song, "My Old Saako," C.S.M. Watts; cornet solo, "Songs of Araby," Sergt. Cook; song (comic), "He didn't want asking," Sergt. Saunders; musical monologue, "Fireman's Wedding," Sergt. Beavan; comic song, "Stop yer tickling, Jock," Staff-Sergt. Everett; impersonations (no names, no pack drill), C.Q.M.S. Smith; song, "Annie Laurie," C.Q.M.S. John; recitation (humorous), Staff-Sergt. Everett; song, "Asleep in the Deep," Sergt. Surr; cornet solo, (a) "Violets," (b) "Killarney," Sergt. Cook; recitation, "King Richard's Address," Sergt. Beavan; song and chorus, "Old Folks at Home," C.S.M. Watts and "The Quarters Quartette"; musical sketch, Sergt. Martin, "God Save the King."

At the conclusion of the concert, the Chairman gave the departing members some useful advice, and wished them "God speed" on behalf of the men. He then handed to Sergts. S. F. Pullen and C. Bowdler silver wrist watches, suitably engraved, from the members and attached sergeants of the mess, and proposed the toast. The popularity of the guests of honour was manifested by the way in which the toast was received and accorded musical honours. Sergt. Pullen responded in an excellent little speech on behalf of both, and after many handshakes, a very pleasant evening terminated with the National Anthem.

Reserve Battalion

Life continued with new recruits undergoing training, and trained soldiers returning to duty fit after sickness, wounds and leave. Sports was a key element of fitness and team building and did much to build morale.

The Battalion continued to reinforce the 1st Battalion, and now also the KSLI in France and 2 drafts were sent out in September and reported in The Hereford Times:

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

DRAFT OF 1st LINE MEN LEAVE FOR SERVICE.

RESERVE LINE IN NEW BRIGADE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Another considerable draft of men left the Reserve Battalion last week-end to join the 1st Battalion on active service, and they will take the places of the men who fell in the recent fighting which ended so brilliantly for the British arms.

Unfortunately it is not permissible to give the names of the men who have gone, but it can be stated that they are all drawn from B Company of the Reserve Battalion, and K Company consists of men who have been on active service with the 1st Battalion. They were all members of the Battalion which went into action in the Dardanelles, where the Regiment won praise which will live for ever in the annals of the County Territorial unit.

Since they joined up with the Reserve Battalion, after having been dismissed from various hospitals in England, they have continued their training and are now again quite competent to take their place along with their comrades in the fighting line.

A HEARTY SEND-OFF.

The draft was given a hearty send-off by the men who are left behind, and the leave-taking was sincere. On Saturday night at 9 o'clock—after pay parade and inspection earlier—the men were entertained to supper in the "dry" canteen, and a very pleasant time was spent. Lieut.-Colonel Symonds-Taylor and most of the other officers of the regiment were present and helped to serve the meal, and of course the men of the 1st Line who were not included in the draft were also present to lend a hand. The time sped pleasantly, and then a farewell party was held in the huts. There was dancing and all sorts of fun, and the instruments recently received from Mrs. Williams (wife of Captain Williams, a 1st Line officer) came in very handy. The proceedings concluded with hearty cheers for Colonel Symonds-Taylor and the officers of the Reserve Battalion.

The draft paraded at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning, and the weather was enough to damp one's spirits. It was raining in torrents, but everybody was cheerful. The only people who were downhearted were those who were left behind.

The band accompanied the men to the station, and as the train steamed out it played "Farewell." Resounding cheers were given for the men of the draft, and the "1st Liners" replied equally heartily for those who were remaining at the camp.

A WELCOME AT BARRS COURT.

On their way from camp to a port of embarkation, the location of which must not be indicated in print, the draft had to pass through Hereford, the native city of many of them, and as the "special" conveying them was scheduled to stop at Barrs Court for ten minutes, their local friends had an opportunity of seeing them to bid them farewell and a safe return. As can be well imagined all but those who found it impossible to get to the station were there; and a crowd of about 250 relatives and friends—parents, brothers, sisters, and sweethearts—animated by feelings of mingled joy and anxiety, groped their way through the inky darkness of the city streets to the station. It was ten minutes past four when the special troop train by which the men were travelling pulled up at the island platform heading south; it came in to the accompaniment of ringing cheers from the men themselves straining their eyes at the windows, as well as from the people on the platform. Then greetings grave and gay were exchanged, and there was a good deal of pleasurable excitement on the platform in the dim light of the darkened station lamps. Friends made the most of the all too few minutes which an inexorable time-table allowed; and meanwhile the creature comforts of the returning warriors were ministered to by a small band of voluntary assistants from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Rest, the usefulness of which was never more apparent. As is usually the case on Saturday-Sunday nights, Mr. J. Osborne, of the Y.M.C.A., was in charge, and he not only provided an abundance of refreshments for the Hereford "Boys," who duly appreciated a hot cup of tea, with sandwiches and cake. The surplus viands were distributed among the other troops on the train, who were somewhat surprised to find that there was no "damage" to pay, the reason being, of course, that these comforts are supplied daily and nightly by the generosity of citizens, grateful to the men who are doing the fighting for those who have to remain at home and desire to minister to the well-being of such of H.M. Forces as pass this way. As the train steamed out of the station hearty and long-sustained were the cheers that were raised for the brave fellows we hope some day to welcome home again; and they themselves departed in high spirits.

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

LARGE DRAFT OF MEN SENT TO THE K.S.L.I.

COMRADES' HEARTY SEND-OFF.

[From our own Correspondent.]

By far the largest draft that has left the Herefordshire Regiment since the 1st Line proceeded to Gallipoli, left camp on Monday morning for active service with one of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry battalions. It will be remembered that some months ago an Army Order was issued which stated that the Herefordshire Regiment was attached to the K.S.L.I. for certain purposes, and it is in consequence of that order that the present draft has been called for.

As I stated at the time the order was issued, the men would rather have done their foreign service with their own regiment than be transferred to or attached to any other unit. But, apart from the name itself, the K.S.L.I. is almost as much a Herefordshire regiment as is the regiment which bears the county's name. Thousands of Herefordshire men are now serving with the K.S.L.I. and are helping to maintain the glorious traditions that have been set up by others before them, many of whom came from within the borders of Herefordshire. The men of the draft will soon be at home with their new comrades—many in

fact will fight side by side with friends from their own villages and towns.

Saturday was a busy day for the men who were to make up the draft, for kits had to be packed and accounts settled up. During the morning there was a roll call and medical inspection, and later on an inspection of equipment by Colonel Symonds-Taylor. On Sunday church parade was held in a large field near camp, and the chaplain spoke specially to the men who were under orders to leave on the following day. His words of advice and encouragement were highly appreciated, and incidentally he paid a warm tribute to the last draft which left the regiment, saying that when addressing the men of his own brigade he had referred to the fact that the Herefordshire draft was the most sober and one of the finest that he had ever seen leave the camp for the front.

On Monday morning the men of the draft drew haversack rations soon after eight o'clock, and after breakfast they paraded in front of the orderly room ready to move off. Each man was given a pipe and tobacco or cigarettes, and then the remainder of the battalion was formed up and Colonel Symonds-Taylor bade his men farewell. In a few appropriate remarks he referred to the glorious traditions of the K.S.L.I., and at the same time told the men that they must not forget that the regiment in which they received their training had also made itself famous by its splendid work in Gallipoli and Egypt. In the name of the regiment he wished them God speed and a safe return, expressing his confidence that the men would do good work wherever they might be sent.

The Colonel then called for three cheers for the draft, which were given right heartily, and the draft replied with hearty cheers for Colonel Symonds-Taylor, for Captain Bailey (from whose company many of them were drawn), and for Major MacMullan, the medical officer.

The band of the Monmouthshire Regiment was present to play the draft to the station, and the remainder of the battalion followed in the rear. As the train steamed out of the station the band played "Auld Lang Syne," and hearty cheers were raised by the men of the battalion who were formed up in a field by the side of the line.

Men also transferred to other units:

OFFICERS FOR FLYING CORPS.

Three officers of the Reserve Battalion have this week been detached from the Regiment to go to the Flying Corps. They were all well liked by the men, and it is with regret that the news of their departure is received. The names are Lieut. W. H. Ashbee, 2nd Lieut. G. B. McMichael, and 2nd Lieut. G. T. R. Pottigrow.

Lieut. Ashbee hails from Hanwell, London, though he has Herefordshire connections. He joined the battalion on August 5th last year and got his second star on April 27th of this year. 2nd Lieut. McMichael is a son of Dr. McMichael, of Vowchurch, and he joined the regiment on January 19th this year from a Cadet Corps. It will be remembered that he was in charge of the last company formed at Hereford. 2nd Lieut. Pottigrow joined the Herefords on January 17th this year and is a son of Mr. Pottigrow, Ryeland Street, Hereford. He served in France in the K.S.L.I. as a lance-corporal and came home badly wounded before gaining his commission. The best wishes of the officers and men of the regiment go with these three officers in their new venture, and the hope is expressed on all hands that there may be a successful future before them.

Trained soldiers were received, and D Company was formed and comprised trained soldiers:

DRAFT ARRIVES.

On Monday there was much bustle in camp, for a draft of 70 N.C.O.'s and men from the 48th Provisional Battalion was expected in the evening, and huts had to be got ready for them. Most of the draft belonged to the 2nd Herefords in the first place, but were afterwards joined to the 48th Provisional Battalion. They have been sleeping in empty houses, messing together in a central place. No life in huts will not appear very strange to them, except that they will be together. The draft was given a warm welcome to camp, especially by the men who recently came to us from Cromer.

The arrival of these 70 men has meant that D Company, which ceased to exist some little time back on account of the number of men sent out to the 1st Line, has been reformed, and the Cromer men, together with one or two platoons from companies which are now over strength, will form D Company.

Army reorganisation, to manage the increasing number of soldiers and their training and administration, continued

CHANGE OF BRIGADE.

EFFECT OF RECENT ARMY ORDER CONCERNING RESERVE BATTALIONS.

It will be remembered that a few weeks ago it was stated in these columns that an Army Order had been issued establishing a "Training Reserve," with a view to supplying drafts for the regiments now on active service. I stated at the time that it was uncertain what the effect would be on the Reserve Battalion of the Herefordshire Regiment, and although even now it is not clear what it will end in, the first change has come about. The Welsh Border Infantry Brigade, to which the Reserve Battalion belonged, has now ceased to exist, and we are a part of the Welsh Reserve Brigade.

This week the following message has been received by the officers from Lieut.-Colonel Harry D. Griffiths, who commanded the Welsh Border Infantry Brigade:—

As the new formations, which take place on September 1st, will put an end to the Welsh Border Infantry Brigade, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the officers commanding, officers, N.C.O.'s, and the men of the units comprising the Brigade, for the way in which they have always supported me. It is with the greatest regret that I sever my connection with you all. Good-bye, and the best of luck be with you.

The fact that the Brigade has been changed does not mean that the conduct of the Reserve Battalion will be interfered with in any way. We shall continue under our own officers, and the training will go on just as it has done in the past. Whether there will be a change later on remains to be seen.

The hope of the men of the Reserve Battalion is that they will be able to see their service with their own regiment, and unless something unforeseen occurs this is what is likely to happen. Anyway, it does not look as if the order now issued will affect the position. We hope that when our time comes we shall serve with our own regiment, and I think we shall render service which will in no way tarnish the reputation our regiment has already won in this world-war.

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

MEN INSPECTED AT WORK BY MAJOR-GENERAL DONALD.

MORE RESERVES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The two chief items of interest this week in regard to the Reserve Battalion, 1st Herefordshire Regiment, are the arrival of more men from an eastern county belonging to the 48th Provisional Battalion, and an inspection of the whole battalion by Major-General Donald.

The weather during the week-end was very wet. All Sunday the rain poured down, and the men had to spend most of the time in their huts. Church parade had to be held in the Regimental Institute. During the week, however, things have improved, and the weather has been perfect for training purposes.

DRAFT ARRIVES

On Tuesday Major-General Donald paid a visit of inspection to the camp, and he saw the Reserve Herefords at work in the various portions of their centre. He arrived with his staff at about 10.30, and appeared to be very pleased with the way the training was being carried out.

Normal training and activities continued.

The fact that most of the news which comes from the 1st Reserve Bn. Herefordshire Regiment concerns the social side of the life of the men in camp must not be construed into an idea that ours is a life of "all play and no work." The best of our officers realise that the social side of a soldier's life is almost as important as the military side. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" is an old saying, but it is perfectly true. No one realises this more keenly than Colonel Symonds-Taylor, who goes to no end of trouble to provide amusements for the men during their spare hours.

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

INTERESTING CRICKET AND SKITTLES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

The weather on Saturday afternoon was delightful, after several days of heavy rain, and the men thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity of a few hours fun at skittles, quoits, and cricket. The new skittle pitch is thoroughly appreciated, and on Saturday evening Lieut.-Colonel Symonds-Taylor and the Regal-Sergt.-Major had a match with Capt. Smith and Quartermaster Jones.

MORE PRIZES FOR SHOOTING.

The party which has just returned from its general musketry course did very well in spite of the fact that the conditions were not conducive to good shooting. Corpl. B. Scoltock (4383) was the highest scorer of the party, gaining the "marksman" distinction, and other prize winners, who are all classified "first class shots" were: Pte. E. Davies (3763), Pte. A. Evans (4244), Pte. W. Turner (4681), Pte. G. H. Lane (3598), Pte. G. Haines (4546), Pte. H. Birt (4760), Pte. E. Field (4716), Pte. Dalrow (4545), Pte. C. Llewellyn (4721), Sergt. Raymond (3858), Pte. F. Moss (4678), Pte. Medlicott (4677), Corpl. J. C. Johns (4757), Pte. H. Bowery (4760), Pte. E. Drew (4718), Pte. Goulder (4237), and Pte. A. Kitson (4419). Extra prizes for extra good shooting were awarded to Pte. E. Field (4716), Pte. A. Kitson (4419), Sergt. P. Raymond (3858) and Pte. E. Davies (3763). The shooting was the best that any party from the battalion has done, and the average for the party was exceptionally high. Extra prizes were awarded in special cases, Pte. E. Field gaining his for a possible at 400 yards and the others for possibilities at snaphooting.

CRICKET MATCHES.

A very interesting cricket match was played on the parade ground on Saturday afternoon between the officers and N.C.O.'s and men of the battalion. The result was a win for the officers by 11 runs, thanks to the splendid play of Capt. T. Ragg, who scored no fewer than 43 runs out of a total of 80, and took six wickets for 11 runs. Capt. Reeve-Smith took 1 for four runs, Lieut. Wilkinson 1 for 15, and Lieut. Howells 1 for 12.

The N.C.O.'s and men started well, thanks to a number of "byes" which reached the boundary, but after tea they fell away, five wickets falling for six runs. Sergt.-Drummer Evans was the most successful bowler, taking five wickets for 23 runs. Pte. Britton took 2 for 15, and Sergt.-Major Vale 2 for 24.

The scores were:—Officers: Lieut. R. G. Gurney, c and b Sergt. Evans, 2; 2nd Lieut. C. R. Edwards, b Pte. Britton, 8; 2nd Lieut. A. Wilkinson, b Pte. Britton, 3; Capt. T. Ragg c Sergt. Lewis, b Sergt. Evans, 43; Capt. M. V. Reeve-Smith, b Sergt.-Major Vale, 6; Major MacMullan, b Sergt.-Major Vale, 6; 2nd Lieut. C. M. Evans, run out, 6; 2nd Lieut. Pettigrew, c Sergt. Shinn, b Sergt. Evans, 2; 2nd Lieut. E. Howells, c Sergt. Shinn, b Sergt. Evans, 6; 2nd Lieut. H. A. Edwards, not out, 9; 2nd Lieut. R. H. Pochin, b Sergt. Evans, 0; extras, 10; total, 80. N.C.O.'s and Men: Pte. A. G. Roberts, b Lieut. Wilkinson, 1; Lee-Corpl. B. Croxdon, c Lieut. Wilkinson, b Lieut. Howells, 1; Pte. F. Britton, b Capt. Ragg, 12; Sergt.-Major Vale, b Capt. Smith, 8; Sergt.-Drummer Evans, b Capt. Ragg, 8; Sergt. F. Lewis, b Capt. Ragg, 6; Sergt. G. Brown c Lieut. Wilkinson, b Capt. Ragg, 6; Sergt. W. Pearson, run out, 6; Sergt. F. Shinn, b Capt. Ragg, 2; Corpl. W. J. Parrott, not out, 10; Pte. H. Lane, well, c Lieut. Wilkinson, b Capt. Ragg, 9; extras, 20; total, 122.

A Company, v. C Company.—A match was played between teams representing A Company and C Company, resulting in a win for the former. Pte. Roberts was very successful with the ball, taking six wickets for only 17 runs. Sergt. Evans was next best with four for 28. The scores were:—C Company: Pte. Hammond, b Roberts, 12; Pte. Burford, b Roberts, 20; Pte. Evans, b Clarke, 2; Lt. Pettigrew, run out, 3; Sergt. Evans, b Clarke, 3; Lt. H. A. Edwards, b Roberts, 1; Sergt. Brown, b Roberts, 6; Pte. Prooce, b Roberts, 1; Pte. Loader, b Evans, 7; Pte. Howells, not out, 9; Drummer Watson, b Roberts, 0; extras, 10; total, 63. A Company: Pte. A. G. Roberts, b Sergt. Evans, 6; Lance-Corpl. Croxdon, c Burford, b Sergt. Evans, 15; Lieut. C. R. Edwards, b Prooce, 11; Pte. W. P. Clarke, run out, 10; Pte. A. E. Oakley, b Prooce, 9; Pte. A. G. Evans, c Burford, b Hammond, 23; Pte. B. O. Russell, c Howells, b Lt. Pettigrew, 12; Sergt. Tudor, b Sergt. Evans, 14; Pte. R. E. Davis, b Lt. H. A. Edwards, 2; Pte. T. H. Goscomb, c Burford, b Sergt. Evans, 1; Pte. G. Brisbane, not out, 1; extras, 9; total, 122.

On Wednesday another match between officers and men of the regiment was played and great interest was taken in it. Cricket has really taken on, and the probability is that an inter-platoon competition will soon be started. The scores were:—Officers: Capt. T. Ragg, b Roberts, 21; Lt. F. B. Ellison, b Skipp, 35; Lt. R. G. Gurney, b Roberts, 4; Lt. D. A. J. Wilkinson, b Skipp, 9; Capt. M. V. Reeve-Smith, not out, 24; 2nd Lt. C. N. Evans, b Roberts, 0; 2nd Lt. C. R. Edwards, b Skipp, 9; Lt. E. Howell, b Roberts, 7; 2nd Lt. G. Pettigrew, c Evans, b Skipp, 5; 2nd Lt. Oakley, b Roberts, 0; 2nd Lt. Walsley, b Roberts, 0; extras, 9; total, 105. N.C.O.'s and Men: Sergt.-Major Jennings, bow, b Capt. Ragg, 9; Pte. F. Britton, b Lt. Ellison, 6; Pte. A. G. Evans, c 2nd Lt. Evans, b Capt. Ragg, 13; Lance-Corpl. B. Croxdon, b Capt. Ragg, 8; Pte. A. R. Skipp, b Capt. Ragg, 0; Corpl. W. J. Parrott, b Lt. Ellison, 6; Pte. A. G. Roberts, b Lt. Wilkinson, 3; Pte. W. R. Counsell, b Lt. Wilkinson, 2; Pte. A. E. Oakley, b Capt. Ragg, 1; Lance-Corpl. Watkins, not out, 6; Pte. J. Etheridge, b Lieut. Wilkinson, 2; extras, 7; total, 45. Pte. Roberts took six wickets for 15 runs, and Pte. Skipp four for 36. Capt. Ragg secured five for 25; Lt. Wilkinson three for 6, and Lieut. Ellison two for 7.

INTER-HUT SKITTLES.

An inter-hut skittle competition has been started this week in which the men are taking a great deal of interest. Prizes are offered for the best teams of eight men chosen from the huts belonging to the battalion, and the following results have been arrived at in the 1st round:—Hut 9 beat Hut 10, Hut 29 beat Hut 19, Hut 26 beat Hut 25, Hut 28 beat Hut 27, Hut 37 beat Hut 38, No. 2 Sergeants beat No. 1 Sergeants, Hut 2 beat Hut 1.

SKITTLE FINAL.

The skittle competition arranged for men of each hut belonging to the regiment caused a great deal of interest, and it has been decided to repeat it forthwith. Some splendid games were witnessed, and competition was keen throughout. Captain H. Reeve-Smith was in charge of the games, and he carried them through without a hitch. In the semi-final Hut 21 was beaten by Hut 6. The first leg resulted in a draw. Then No. 6 won, and No. 21 were victors in the third leg. No. 6 won on the bowl-off. In the final Hut 6 had to meet Hut 36, and there was plenty of excitement. Hut 6 won the first leg by one point, and were beaten on the next without one of the men of

the opposing team bowling. Hut 36 then put up 46 for the final leg, and the last man wanted five pins to draw and six to win. He had some bad luck, however, and his team lost the match. The scores were as follow:—

Hut 36.—Pte. W. Lancett, 6-7-4; Pte. J. P. Seager, 6-5-8; Pte. A. Fletcher, 8-3-8; Pte. T. Brooks, 6-4-4; Pte. T. Lewis, 5-3-3; Pte. W. J. Goodwin, 3-6-6; Pte. G. Grubham, 3-5-5; Lance-Corpl. J. Bray, 4-8. Totals: First leg, 41; second, 35; third, 46.

Hut 6.—Pte. A. Jones, 5-2-5; Pte. W. Preece, 8-6-6; Pte. J. Evans, 9-0-6; Lance-Corpl. H. A. Mapp, 3-2-6; Pte. H. R. Price, 6-5-3; Pte. W. J. Fuller, 5-7-7; Pte. W. Edwards, 3-5-8; Pte. W. T. Price, 3-7-2. Totals: First leg, 42; second, 34; third, 43.

Lance-Corpl. J. Bray captained the winning team, and Pte. W. J. Fuller the losing.

OFFICERS BEAT THE CHAMPIONS.

On Tuesday evening the officers of the Battalion played Hut 36, and won by a narrow margin. The men of Hut 36 started and got 43 for the first leg. To this the officers replied with 38, and so were "one down." Following on they put up a total of 43 and won by one point. For the last leg Hut 36 scored 39, and the officers won again with a score of 41. The detailed scores were as follow:—

Officers.—Lieut.-Col. R. H. Symonds-Taylor, 6-6-7; Major MacMullan, 6-2-5; Capt. Reeve-Smith, 4-5-6; Lieut. Wilkinson, 5-6-5; Sec. Lieut. H. H. Edwards, 4-5-3; Sec. Lieut. O. R. Edwards, 5-4-5; Sec. Lieut. E. H. Pochin, 6-7-5; Sec. Lieut. R. Howell, 6-5-3.

Hut 36.—Pte. W. Lancett, 4-8-3; Pte. D. Seager, 7-4-7; Pte. T. Brook, 4-3-6; Pte. G. Grubham, 4-7-7; Pte. A. Fletcher, 5-7-3; Pte. W. Goodwin, 7-1-2; Pte. T. Lewis, 2-4-7; L.-Corpl. D. Bray, 6-3-4.

SPLENDID SHOOTING.

The shooting of the last party which went through its general musketry course was of a very satisfactory character, and the Commanding Officer issued a special order of congratulation on their return to camp. The average for each man was 75, and only four of the party failed to reach the standard of a second-class shot. Pte. A. Jones (3237) passed out as a marksmen and was awarded the first prize. Other prize-winners, all of whom are classed as "first-class shots," were Pte. A. Lewis (4564), Pte. T. Warburton (4358), Pte. W. Amos (4906), Pte. E. Hughes (4875), Pte. J. S. Boast (4829), Pte. G. Radham (4598), Pte. E. W. Arnold (4948), Pte. J. T. Clewer (4942), Pte. H. J. Lane (4937), Pte. R. Hawketts (4995), and Pte. J. Vickress (4907).

THE GARRISON THEATRE.

The Garrison Theatre, which is being erected in one corner of the Herefords' parade ground, is rapidly nearing completion, and the date for opening is announced for September 30th.

SERVICE IN PARISH CHURCH.

On Sunday the men of the Battalion attended divine service in the Parish Church of the town near which their camp is situated, and the Vicar made special reference to the fact that the chaplain of the Herefords and the Monmouths (Capt. Gravell) had left for service in France. At the close the Vicar invited the men to attend a special Holy Communion celebration.

Another list of winners of prizes for good shooting has been published in Battalion orders this week. Of the party which last went through its general musketry course the following men were successful: Pte. A. G. Harris (4978), Pte. T. Payne (4989), Pte. A. W. E. Skipp (4986), Pte. J. Nash (4988), Pte. Preece (4884), Pte. W. H. Jones (4990), Pte. H. Winter (5370), Pte. S. Pinches (4618), and Pte. H. W. Fuller (4275). The names are given in order of points scored, Pte. Fuller and Pte. Pinches

The shooting on the Battalion's miniature range continues good, and the following are the latest winners:—Application: Pte. K. Phillips (5088), 29; Pte. C. Goulder (4237), 19; Pte. J. Hore (4258), 18; Pte. J. Bethell (3337), 18; Pte. J. Davies (5497), 16. The highest possible score was 29. In firing at disappearing targets, Pte. F. Farmer (8254), Pte. E. Parry (4475), and Pte. H. L. Evans (4161), each won prizes with possibles.