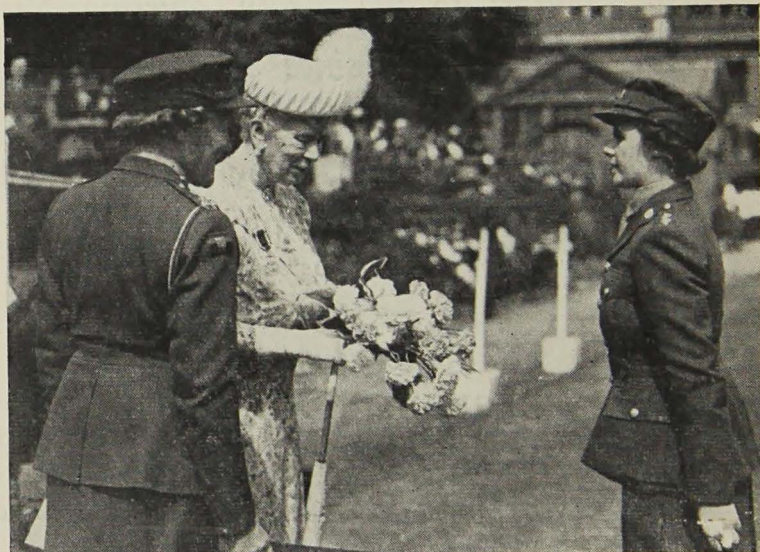


# The Gazette



*Photo by P.A.-Reuter*  
Passing-Out Parade at Anstie Grange Depot, June, 1948. Presentation of a bouquet to Her late Majesty Queen Mary.

## *Journal of The Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Association*

Vol. 2 No. 2

May, 1953

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*384 pp. with 16 pp. photographs. 21/-net.*

**FROM ALL BOOKSELLERS**

**PUBLISHED BY CASSELL**



*Photo by Hay Wrightson*

# THE Q. A. R. A. N. C. ASSOCIATION GAZETTE

*To the Memory of our beloved Patron*  
**HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY**  
*Colonel-in-Chief, Q.A.R.A.N.C.*

Vol. 2. No. 2

MAY, 1953

## Editorial

Q.A's and ex-Q.A's all over the world have felt a deep personal sorrow in the death of our revered and much loved Colonel-in-Chief and Patron.

Queen Mary's long life of selfless and unswerving devotion to duty was an inspiration and an example to all. Well could she have said "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith." Now she rests from her labours, and, though we grieve that she was not spared to see the Coronation of her grand-daughter, yet, knowing the anxiety which her failing health would inevitably have caused, and having in mind her unceasing consideration for others, we can be sure that the end came as she would have wished. May she rest in peace.

The Corps was represented at the Funeral Service at Windsor by Brigadier Gillespie, M.B.E., R.R.C., D.A.N.S., Q.H.N.S., Matron-in-Chief, and by Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C., Colonel-Commandant.

Wreaths were sent to Windsor from the Corps, the Association, and from both Queen Mary's Houses.

A detachment of 19 Q.A.R.A.N.C. personnel, consisting of 7 officers and 12 other ranks marched in the procession from Marlborough House to Westminster Hall on Sunday, 29th March. They were with the other detachments of Queen Mary's regiments following behind the Royal Dukes.

An aerial photograph of this detachment on the march appears on another page.

At the beautiful and magnificently simple Memorial Service at St. Paul's, the Cathedral was filled with a vast congregation—"high and low, rich and poor, one with another"—which joined wholeheartedly in familiar words and tunes, long known and loved, wherever the English tongue is spoken. The Service gave a tremendous sense of the continuity of history, history in which each must willy-nilly play a part. Let every one of us then, playing our humble parts in our day and generation, strive after the faithfulness with which Queen Mary so diligently played her great one, and surely the reign of her dear grand-daughter, our beloved and gracious Queen Elizabeth, so soon to go to her Crowning, will be indeed a happy and a glorious one.

The Annual General Meeting of the Q.A. Association was held at 20 John Islip Street on Saturday, March 27, and was well attended. Some important decisions were made, and the report of this meeting, which will be found in this issue of the GAZETTE, will repay attentive perusal.

The Secretary of the East Africa Branch has sent some extremely interesting News Letters, which are produced by the East Africa Women's League. Space, unfortunately, does not permit of their reproduction in the GAZETTE. Our deep sympathy goes to all the courageous women of East Africa, and our hope and prayer is, that the dawn of a fair and equitable settlement may soon lighten the heavy clouds beneath which they struggle so gallantly.

*Army Sisters' Memorial Fund.*

Copies of the Memorial Book, "One Hundred Years of Army Nursing" by the late Ian Hay (Cassell and Co., 21/-) have been received at this office.

Time and space being at the moment in equally short supply, we hope that the book will be reviewed in detail in the August GAZETTE, and will at present confine ourselves to naked fact, namely that it is attractively got up, beautifully written (the name of Ian Hay is guarantee of that) and entrancingly interesting.

When thoughts of other things tried to obtrude themselves on our consciousness, we rejoiced that it was our duty to read it all through, for really, once begun, it is quite extraordinary hard to put down!

We acknowledge, with many thanks, the Spring Number of the Army Medical Services Magazine.

## Queen Mary

A VERY Great Lady has passed away, a Queen, loved and admired by all, high and low, for her truly queenly character, her courage, unswerving principles, her sympathy and understanding. Our country and our people owe an inestimable debt to the devoted service she gave to them throughout her long life and to her never failing interest in the changing scenes around her.

It must fill us all with deep gratitude and pride that we have been privileged to have this great lady, Queen Mary, as President or Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Nursing Service since the death of our first President, Queen Alexandra, and of recent years as Patron of our Association. This is a memory greatly to be treasured, a very vital part of the history of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

People often found it difficult to realise that Her Majesty's interest in our Service was not merely nominal. I know that as junior Q.As, though gratified by the royal connection, we certainly did not appreciate it at its true worth. It was exciting to know that the Q.A. annual "At home" might be honoured by the presence of Queen Mary and more thrilling still was the expectation that some of our number might be presented at these functions. We were pleased to be told that Birthday or Christmas greetings had been sent to our President in the name of the Service and that they had been graciously acknowledged.

Fuller comprehension came later to those of us who in due course had to assume the responsibilities of higher administrative appointments, and it is because I happen to be of that group that I have been asked to tell you something from my own experience of the royal link with our Service. In those positions we very soon realised that our royal President, through her chosen representative the Vice President, insisted on being kept informed of all important matters affecting the Nursing Service.

When reports were going to Queen Mary it was essential to see that they were legible copies and not full of the abbreviations loved by the War Office, all such things would be commented upon. Reasons for special actions had to be clearly given. The most senior appointments were referred for Her Majesty's approval and when I was appointed Chief Principal Matron for India at the end of 1941, I received a letter written at Queen Mary's command, appreciating the many difficulties probably to be faced and sending me encouraging words and good wishes. On my return, Her Majesty, then at Badminton, sent for me and listened to my report with great interest, asking innumerable very knowledgeable questions on nursing in India.

That visit to Badminton was a memorable one for me. The Nursing Service had just taken officially to khaki. I was a very new Matron-in-Chief with smart new khaki and Queen Mary, although agreeing to its necessity, did not like khaki in place of the grey and scarlet. I was warned of this, but felt that I must go in khaki because it was correct wear and besides, it was my newest and best and only the best could be right for such an occasion. The parting words of the D.G.A.M.S. to me were "On your own head be it!" and so it seemed to be later.

When ushered into Her Majesty's presence, I went through some anguished moments for after a kindly greeting Queen Mary said—"You must be longing to be back in your grey and scarlet." I was in despair at this, for being a truthful person I had to own that that was not the case and for a short time the advantages and the disadvantages of khaki were discussed—very unprofitably from my point of view! Desperation took hold of me—it mattered so much! Almost without knowing what I did, I jumped up and twirled myself round before the Queen, pointing out the practicality of the colour and cut of the khaki and its usefulness in providing the then so much needed easy identification with the Army. After a second of silence which was to me acute agony, Her Majesty, to my intense relief laughed merrily and said: "I expect you are right Mrs. Wilkinson, you look very nice in it anyway, but I do not like khaki. Come and sit here and tell me about India," and she patted the seat beside her. I was to stay to lunch and return to London before the dark and bombing began. The rest of that visit is a delightful memory.

Queen Mary was so kind and gracious and interested in the accounts of what the Army Sisters were doing all over the world. Her concern was great that there was no news of those who were Prisoners of War. Two years after that visit to Badminton the majority of our Prisoners of War did return home and at our President's request a small private party was arranged where she could meet them all and talk to each one separately. Her Majesty was very moved. Perhaps that was why for the first and only time I thought of Queen Mary as ageing. I was to see her on a number of occasions after that but never again did I have the same impression, usually one was struck with admiration at Her Majesty's wonderful bearing.

During my time as Matron-in-Chief, our President's generosity, which had helped to establish Queen Mary's House at Fleet, now provided us with the means to purchase and establish the second Queen Mary's House as a residence for retired Q.A's at St. Leonards-on-Sea. That in itself was a royal gift but Queen Mary's interest did not stop there. The practical details were all reviewed by Her Majesty and many alterations and additions made by her express wish for the comfort and convenience of the future residents



—such as extra W.C's, good cupboards, easy stair treads, convenience for washing and ironing "smalls," making tea in rooms, and cooking and domestic amenities.

Queen Mary's House Fund had been launched on the opening of the first house in Fleet and from then right up to recent weeks many practical evidences of Her Majesty's interest in these houses have been displayed. Queen Mary's representative, also her Private Secretary are members of the Committee dealing with this Fund.

In 1948, there were two great occasions when our President was with us. At such times Her Majesty invariably came wearing our cape badge. In April at the first post-war "At home", and again in June at Anstie Grange for what was very much a post-war event—a Drumhead Service and Passing Out Parade for the Army Nursing Service at which Her Majesty took the salute. An enormous amount of careful thought and much hard work went into the preparations of these events for they, particularly the Parade, held a tremendous significance.

Plans for the future Corps had been submitted and we were working gradually towards Nursing being recognised by the same procedure as any other profession within the Army, i.e., by becoming an integral part of the Army. Her Majesty's interest in us was as nurses. At the Parade our President was identifying herself with us in the reorganisation of the Service which was leading to the present Q.A.R.A.N.C. I tried to tell Queen Mary something of what this particular visit meant to us and Her Majesty was very gracious and understanding and also spoke most kind words to me for I was shortly retiring.

A little personal incident occurred. Her Majesty was about to sign the Visitors' Book, using my fountain pen, when we were (or at any rate, I was) disgraced by ink leaking forth. I apologised and expressed my distress that Her Majesty's gloves had been perilously near ruin. Queen Mary smiled gently and said :—

"There is no need to worry—it has not happened, Dame Louisa."

At the Reception referred to, the nursing officers were in khaki, but in special honour of our loved President we had arranged that a certain number of the Q.A's should be in the nursing dress of grey with the scarlet cape and as Her Majesty entered, this guard of honour dipped one after the other in a ripple of rhythmic curtseys. To Queen Mary and all present who loved the Army Nursing Service, it was a moving sight. Seated at the tea table, the Secretary of War made some remark in admiration of this and used the words :—"We must never let the scarlet cape go." Her Majesty caught this and turned to me and said : "I should think not ! what has OUR scarlet cape to do with a Secretary of War ?"

I must tell you of another little incident at the same table. A

very special chocolate cake had been made and usurped the place of honour on the table right in front of Queen Mary. I noticed that the waiter had removed Her Majesty's used plate though the cake remained uncut. I asked Queen Mary if she would not taste it as it had been especially made. The reply came :—" Dame Louisa, I have not had the opportunity!" Needless to say a repentant D.G. on Her Majesty's left hastily repaired this omission.

After tea presentations were made and though there was an official list for that, the numbers were doubled and trebled. I tried to check the flow coming up but Queen Mary said : " Let them come. They like it and so do I".

Some of you have heard me relate these incidents before. They with others are stored in my memory. I have used them here, for in no other way do I feel competent to pay adequate tribute to our revered Patron and Colonel-in-Chief. It seems to me that Her Majesty comes back to us in them—Queen Mary, a very Great Lady.

LOUISA J. WILKINSON.

*Colonel Commandant Q.A.R.A.N.C.*

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## Telegrams exchanged between A.M.D.4 and Buckingham Palace

### DEATH OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY

The following is a copy of the telegram sent on behalf of all ranks Q.A.R.A.N.C. to Her Majesty The Queen and the reply which was received. :—

TO PRIVATE SECRETARY TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

All Ranks of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps present their humble devotion to Her Majesty The Queen and desire to express their deepest sympathy in the loss of their beloved Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Mary.

*(Sgd.) Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services.*

Reply received from Buckingham Palace.

TO MATRON-IN-CHIEF QUEEN ALEXANDRAS ROYAL ARMY NURSING CORPS.

I am sincerely grateful for your message. Please assure those for whom you speak that I deeply value their sympathy.

*(Sgd) ELIZABETH R.*

Copy of telegram sent on behalf of Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association and the reply which was received :—

TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Association send deepest sympathy to your Majesty and all Members of the Royal Family on the death of Queen Mary whose loss as the beloved Patron of our Association is keenly felt.

(Sgd.) *Louisa J. Wilkinson*

*Colonel-Commandant*

*Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.*

Reply :—

COLONEL-COMMANDANT, QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY NURSING CORPS, *via* WAR OFFICE, S.W.I.

The Queen desires me to express her sincere thanks to you and to all who joined with you in your kind message of sympathy on the death of Queen Mary, Patron of your Association.

(Sgd.) Private Secretary.

*From Australia*

Q.A.R.A.N.C. Regimental Association,  
Australian Branch.

31st March 1953.

(received 7th April, 1953).

Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C, Chairman, Q.A.R.A.N.C Regimental Association.

Dear Madam,

Will you please convey to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II the following message of sympathy from members of the Australian Branch of the Association.

“The members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Regimental Association, Australian Branch, express profound sorrow at the death of Her late Majesty Queen Mary, our beloved Patron and extend heartfelt sympathy to Queen Elizabeth II and Members of the Royal Family in the loss which they have sustained.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) MARGARET CHALMERS,

*Honorary Secretary.*

To  
Her Majesty's Private Secretary,  
Buckingham Palace, S.W.1.

8th April, 1953.

SIR,

The enclosed letter was received here yesterday and we beg that it may be brought to Her Majesty's attention.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgd.) LOUISA J. WILKINSON.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

DEAR DAME LOUISA WILKINSON,

Thank you for your letter of 8th April, and for forwarding the message of sympathy to The Queen from the Australian Branch of your Association.

This has been laid before Her Majesty and I now attach the reply which she has instructed me to make to it.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd.) M. E. ADEANE,  
Private Secretary to Her Majesty.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

DEAR MADAM,

I am commanded by the Queen to express Her Majesty's sincere thanks for your kind message of sympathy which Her Majesty much appreciates.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd.) M. E. ADEANE,  
Private Secretary to Her Majesty.

April 15th, 1953.

DEAR MISS CHALMERS,

Your letter of sympathy to Her Majesty The Queen on the death of Queen Mary was forwarded by me, and I have been asked to send the enclosed reply to you.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd.) LOUISA WILKINSON.

## Description of Wreaths Sent

The Association wreath was chosen in the form of a large chaplet, the background being of massed primroses with a sheath of pink roses, carnations, tulips and blue iris with small touches of violets and freesia. The card was beautifully done in script by a serving officer, member of the Association, and bore the words :

“ QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY NURSING CORPS ASSOCIATION  
mourn the death of their loved and revered Patron

### QUEEN MARY

whose life has ever been an inspiration and  
whose memory is honoured and treasured by us all.”

Two lovely sheaths of flowers were sent by Queen Mary's Houses, one of pink carnations and the other of arum lilies with touches of green.

Wreaths sent to Windsor, to the Funeral of Her late Majesty Queen Mary.

### *The Corps.*

A wreath bearing the inscription “ In sorrowful remembrance of their Colonel-in-Chief from the Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services and All Ranks Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps ” was also sent. This was made in the shape of the Queen Alexandra badge, 2½-ft. in height, and consisted of a surround of laurels with a crown of red carnations at the apex, the central cross being in white stocks with the “ A ” also in stocks picked out on a bed of red carnations. At the base the Corps motto in silver lettering lay on a background of red carnations and attached to the wreath was a large bow of Corps ribbon.

*Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association.*  
*Queen Mary's House, Fleet.*

A sheaf of Arum Lilies, inscribed :—

In grateful remembrance of our Dear Patron

Her Majesty QUEEN MARY

from Residents, Warden and House Committee,

Queen Mary's House, Fleet.

*Queen Mary's House, St. Leonards-on-Sea.*

A sheaf of Pink Carnations, inscribed :—

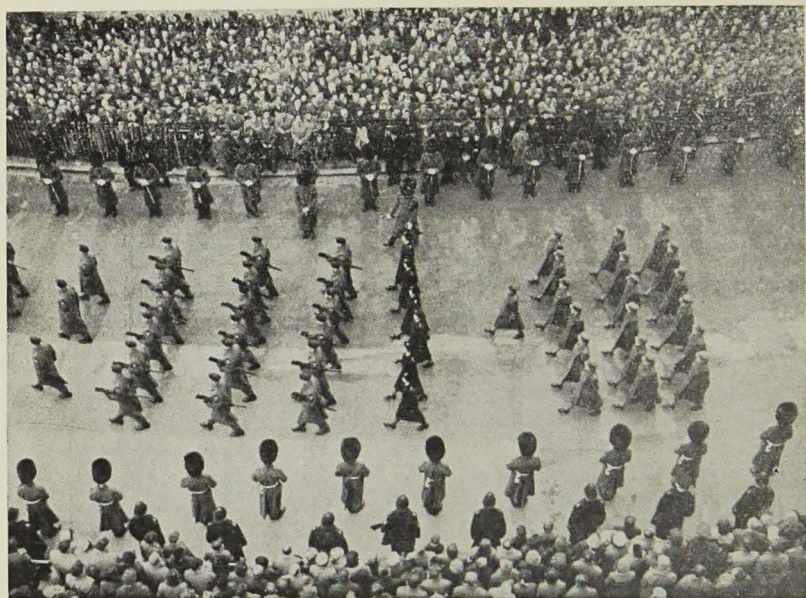
From Residents, Warden and House Committee,

Queen Mary's House, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

With heartfelt sorrow in the loss of our loved Patron

QUEEN MARY

and deep sympathy for the Royal Family.



A Detachment of 7 Officers and 12 Other Ranks, Q.A.R.A.N.C. marched in the Funeral Procession of their Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Mary, on Sunday, 29th March. Representatives of all ranks were chosen including one newly joined Officer who had only been in the Service ten days—The Detachment consisted of :—

Capt. W. M. Hall, A.R.R.C., Adjutant, Depot and T.E.,  
Q.A.R.A.N.C.  
Col. N. P. de B. Bampton, R.R.C., Commandant, Depot and T.E.,  
Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Lt.-Col. J. Stirling, R.R.C., Depot and T.E., Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Capt. M. Clarke

” ”

Lt. M. A. Boyle

” ”

Lt. C. Shaw

” ”

Lt. E. M. Catlin

” ”

S/Sgt Bailey, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Sgt. Miller

”

Sgt. Giblin

”

Sgt. Cameron

”

Cpl. Rae

”

Cpl. Garrett

”

L/Cpl. Goldthorpe

”

L/Cpl. Marshall

”

Pte. Mason

”

Pte. Clarke

”

Pte. Champion

”

Pte. Risbridger

”



*Photo by Marshalls*

Passing-Out Parade at Anstie Grange Depot, June, 1948: Queen Mary photographed with officers of the Depot.





*Photo by Dominion Press*

Passing-Out Parade at Anstie Grange Depot, June, 1948: Her Majesty at the close of the Drumhead Service.



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"Somewhere in France":  
Queen Mary with a Matron of  
Q.A.I.M.N.S. during the 1914-  
18 War.

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## Q.A. DAY

### *Depot and T.E.*

THE PARADE arranged at the Depot for Q.A. Day, March 27th, was cancelled because of the death of Queen Mary, Colonel-in-Chief. It took place on Monday, April 13th, when 40 officers and 200 other tanks paraded. Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C., Colonel-Commandant, Q.A.R.A.N.C., was the Inspecting Officer.

Dame Louisa addressed the parade, saying that Queen Mary, who became President of the Army Nursing Service on the death of Queen Alexandra, had demonstrated her interest by countless practical deeds throughout 27 years. Her Majesty had keenly followed developments in nursing in the Army, particularly the impact on it of the introduction of Q.A. other ranks.

The Colonel-Commandant stressed that Her Majesty's interest in us was as nurses, and that no greater tribute could be paid to

the honoured memory of Queen Mary to whom the Corps owes so much, than determination, not only to live up to the past history and tradition of the Corps, but to surpass it. A chapter of Nursing was closed of which all could be justly proud. The next chapter was in the process of being built up by the present Corps, and each officer and each other rank, no matter where or what their duties are, carries explicit responsibility to maintain and contribute towards the efficiency of the Army Nursing Service.

Dame Louisa brought out that the Nursing and military aspects of the Corps must be welded together to achieve fulfilment of the purpose of the Corps, the best nursing service for the Army. She emphasised that the success of Q.A. other ranks rested very largely on the officer's appreciation of their constant duty towards the other ranks at all times.

The Colonel-Commandant ended her address by complimenting those on parade, and adjuring them to carry forward into everything they did during their service, the same qualities which had gone to make the parade a success. She expressed her confidence that in this way the present and future of Army Nursing is safe in the hands of Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Major E. G. Sherrard, of the New Zealand Forces Nursing Service was present at the Parade. She is the first New Zealand scholar of the British Commonwealth and Empire Nurses War Memorial Fund. She has come here to study the set-up of the Military R.A.F. and Naval Nursing Services, and is now attending a course at the Depot.

Seeing the grey and scarlet of her smart uniform roused nostalgic feelings in some of us. The New Zealand Army Nursing Service is an Allied Corps to Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Major Sherrard may be known to some of you, for she was over here with the New Zealand Contingent for the Victory Parade in 1946.

### *Egypt*

(from Lt.-Colonel E. M. Somerville, Q.A.R.A.N.C.,  
British Military Hospital, Fayid, M.E.L.F., 15. 30/3/53.)

. . . . The collection taken on March 27th, in our Hospital Church amounted to £E6.85, which is, I think, roughly £6 17s. 0d, and it will be arriving, through the Chaplain's Account, for the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Benevolent Fund.

The congregation numbered over 100 altogether . . . . The Church is an extremely nice Unit one, recently finished, and I think the R.A.M.C. men were largely responsible for building it. Col. Smith read the Lesson, and Lt.-Col. McHardy also came for the Service.

We were all naturally upset over the death of our Colonel-in-

Chief, and to-morrow, there is a Memorial Service in the Hospital Church. What a wonderful Queen and great lady Queen Mary was, and what an example she set during her life.

. . . . We are now indulging in typical Khamsin weather—as far as the eye goes, there is nothing to be seen but a fog of dust and sand !!! To say nothing of what the wards and one's rooms look like, dust in layers everywhere !

*Service Collections*

The following donations from special Q.A. Day services are gratefully acknowledged on behalf of Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association Benevolent Fund :

	£	s.	d.
Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley . . . . .	3	0	0
British Military Hospital, Fayid, M.E.L.F. . . . .	6	17	0
British Military Hospital, Fayid, M.E.L.F. (from R.C.s, Q.A. Day Mass) . . . . .	2	0	0
Cambridge Military Hospital . . . . .	2	0	0

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## News of Members

Miss E. Colman Turner, (A 483), after many years service at Keighley and District Victoria Hospital, is leaving to take up the post of Sister-Tutor at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey. Miss Colman Turner served with T.A.N.S. during the war, and is still a member of the T.A. Reserve of Officers. Many will remember her interesting account in the GAZETTE last year, of T.A. Training in Northern Command.

Miss M. E. Craven, R.R.C., (L 275), Matron of the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, and, until recently, Vice-Chairman of the Q.A. Association Central Committee, is to be one of the four accredited delegates to accompany the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the International Council of Nurses Congress in Brazil this year. She was nominated by the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee, of which she is honorary secretary. That she will have an exceedingly interesting time goes without saying, and we hope that she will have a very pleasant journey.

Colonel E. M. B. Dyson, O.B.E., R.R.C. and Bar, who recently retired after nearly 30 years service with Q.A.I.M.N.S. and Q.A.R.A.N.C., has been appointed Secretary of the Residential Services Department of the National Association for Mental Health, in succession to Mrs. Caradoc Evans. Prior to her retirement, Col. Dyson was D.D.A.N.S., B.A.O.R., and she remains on the Regular Army Reserve of Officers.

The Residential Services Department of the National Association for Mental Health administers homes up and down the country, the majority of which are of an experimental nature dealing with the needs of emotionally disturbed and maladjusted young people. Those who know Col. Dyson, and remember her clear and level gaze, her kindly commonsense and her wide experience of all sorts and conditions of people, will appreciate how suited she is for her new post.

Miss I. Else, (A.554), is leaving the West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead, where she has been Matron, having been appointed Matron of the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. We wish her every success in her new appointment.

Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C., our Chairman, who is also Colonel-Commandant, Q.A.R.A.N.C., tells us that her appointment as a member of the Council of the Royal College of Nursing ends in June, and that she has not accepted re-nomination. This makes us all the more anxious that Brigadier Gillespie, M.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., D.A.N.S., Matron-in-Chief, Q.A.R.A.N.C., should be elected.

We think that it is very important that someone with wide Service experience should be on the Council of the College, where the opinions of the nursing world are voiced and its policies formed. The Services have much to give in such councils, and much to receive.

By command of The Queen, Brigadier Gillespie, M.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., D.A.N.S., Matron-in-Chief, Q.A.R.A.N.C. and Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C., Colonel-Commandant, Q.A.R.A.N.C., will be present in the Abbey, on the occasion of the Coronation of Her Majesty.

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## Royal Review of Ex-Service Men and Women

Hyde Park — 5th July, 1953

It is hoped that our Association members will be well represented at the Review. The Parade which will start at 2.30 p.m. will consist of :

- A. A short service conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- B. An inspection by Her Majesty the Queen followed by a short address.
- C. A March Past.

Will all members wishing to attend this parade apply immediately to the Secretary and full particulars will be sent to them.

## News from the Branches

### *Scottish Branch*

The Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Branch was held at the Royal Infirmary, Stirling, by kind permission of Miss Ritchie, Matron, on Saturday, February 7th, 1953.

Miss Murrie was in the chair, and 42 members were present. A Bring-and-Buy Sale followed the business of the meeting ; business was brisk, and the gratifying sum of £32 was realized. Miss Ritchie kindly provided tea, and thanks to her most kind hospitality, and that of her Staff, the afternoon was most enjoyable.

In Edinburgh, there have been good attendances at the newly started monthly social meetings. It is hoped, however, that many more will take advantage of this splendid opportunity of renewing old friendships, and making new ones.

The monthly social meetings in Glasgow have been continued, and good attendances are reported.

### *Midland Branch*

At the Memorial Service to Her late Majesty Queen Mary which was held in Birmingham Cathedral, and attended by the Lord Mayor and Corporation and other Civic Heads, the Midland Branch of the Association was represented by Miss J. Beer (A.335).

Plans are going ahead for the Branch's Summer Re-Union, and an account of this will, we hope, appear in the August GAZETTE.

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## The Queen's Birthday

250 other ranks and 14 officers Q.A.R.A.N.C., under the command of the Commandant, Depot and T.E., are taking part in The Queen's Birthday Parade at Aldershot on Thursday, 11 June.

The Parade of 3000 troops will be taken by the General Officer Commanding Aldershot District, and the detachment of Q.A.R.A.N.C. will be the only Womens' Service represented on parade.

# Arrangements for Corps Week

June 1953

*Saturday, 6th June*

	PLACE
Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association	Hyde Park Hotel Knights-bridge, London, S.W.1 — 4-7 p.m.
Re-union	

*Sunday, 7th June*

DRUM HEAD SERVICE ... Depot & T.E.—11 a.m.

*Monday, 8th June*

MEDFORTH CUP—Eliminating Matches	} Depot & T.E.
CORPS SPORTS—Heats	

*Tuesday, 9th June*

TENNIS — Medforth Cup	} Depot & T.E.
Finals ... ..	
SPORTS MEETING ...	
ALL RANKS DANCE ...	

*Wednesday, 10th June*

COCKTAIL PARTY (Serving Officers plus one guest) Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. 6.30 8 p.m.

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## Tickets for the Re-union

Members, 10/-; non-members and guests, 12/6 from the Hon. Gen. Secretary, Q.A. Association, 20, John Islip Street, London, S.W.1.

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## Drumhead Service

Luncheon Tickets, 6/- each, from The Adjutant, Depot & T.E. Q.A.R.A.N.C., Queen Alexandra Camp, Hindhead, Surrey. Coaches connect with the Camp and Liphook Station (S.R.) The train leaving Waterloo at 8.57 a.m. arrives at 10.32 The train leaving Portsmouth and Southsea at 9.30 a.m. arrives at Liphook at 10.13.

# Postings from and Reversions to Home Establishment, Jan. - Mar., 1953

## POSTINGS OVERSEAS—OFFICERS

### *To F.A.R.E.L.F.*

Major E. Taylor  
Major F. V. Fenton  
Major G. V. Edmunds  
Major E. D. Harte  
Major M. R. E. Knapton  
Major B. M. Waterman  
Major E. M. Reynolds  
Major C. M. Gigg  
Capt. C. Moseley  
Capt. M. A. Gara  
Lieut. J. Espezel  
Lieut. M. Kidder  
Lieut. H. Fyfe  
Lieut. E. Hyland  
Lieut. A. Holmes  
Lieut. J. Tulloch  
Lieut. E. Walsh  
Lieut. E. M. Sutherland  
Lieut. P. Willisroft  
Lieut. D. Barrett  
Lieut. P. M. Whelan  
Lieut. M. T. McGloin  
Lieut. F. W. Glazin  
Lieut. C. M. Ackland  
Lieut. P. J. Heath  
Lieut. B. A. Hill  
Lieut. M. E. Ramm  
Lieut. E. T. C. McCarthy  
Lieut. J. Kitchen  
Lieut. J. Sandeman

### *To B.A.O.R.*

Lieut.-Colonel E. H. Owen  
Capt. E. L. F. Coates  
Capt. J. L. Jeffreys-Edwards  
Capt. M. Simpson  
Capt. M. K. Winston  
Capt. J. R. Mann  
Capt. A. Kirwan  
Lieut. S. Carmichael  
Lieut. K. C. Fitzpatrick  
Lieut. D. Watkinson  
Lieut. J. M. Elliott  
Lieut. J. A. Francis  
Lieut. D. Le Marquand  
Lieut. J. B. Patterson  
Lieut. M. H. Hardy  
Lieut. M. Revell  
Lieut. P. A. K. Hickman  
Lieut. A. E. Holladay  
Lieut. A. T. Roberts  
Lieut. D. J. Tutton

Lieut. M. Urpeth  
Lieut. M. Ablett  
Lieut. J. Boyd  
Lieut. P. J. Dollimore  
Lieut. J. Gibson  
Lieut. E. B. A. Laird  
Lieut. M. J. Mann  
Lieut. S. M. Williams  
Lieut. J. Williamson  
Lieut. Y. M. Griffiths

Lieut. A. E. Reynolds  
Lieut. D. Heap  
Lieut. E. V. Wilson  
Lieut. J. P. Parker  
Lieut. M. T. Tobin

### *To M.E.L.F.*

Lieut.-Colonel E. M. Somerville  
Major B. M. Fitzpatrick  
Major G. M. Clark  
Major C. B. Powell  
Major K. M. Cross  
Capt. H. Cattenach  
Capt. M. M. Bridgwater  
Capt. J. Thomas  
Lieut. G. A. Anderson  
Lieut. J. Allott  
Lieut. E. Byers  
Lieut. L. Christie  
Lieut. M. Jones  
Lieut. E. Seppings  
Lieut. M. Singleton  
Lieut. K. Whitefield  
Lieut. T. Brennan  
Lieut. D. I. M. Clifton  
Lieut. J. Forsyth  
Lieut. B. Galvin  
Lieut. N. L. Rose  
Lieut. M. E. Tearne  
Lieut. G. N. Smith  
Lieut. I. F. Mackie  
Lieut. C. Drummy  
Lieut. M. E. Pattenden  
Lieut. A. Mountain  
Lieut. B. J. Phillpotts  
Lieut. K. M. Dinan  
Lieut. R. Carter

### *To B.T.A.*

Major M. A. G. Cameron  
Capt. M. M. King  
Lieut. J. M. Hall



## OFFICERS

Lieut. C. G. Hawthorne  
Lieut. N. Lofthouse

*To B.E.T.F.O.R.*

Major M. A. J. Condon

*To West Africa*

Major M. E. Miller

Lieut. J. M. Blyther

*To Jamaica*

Capt. M. Wall

Lieut. J. Ingle

## OTHER RANKS

*To F.A.R.E.L.F. (Hong Kong)*

A./Cpl. E. M. Foster  
Pte. M. C. S. Aitken  
Pte. P. Forster  
Pte. E. Hicks  
Pte. L. E. Cross  
Pte. M. MacDonald  
Pte. T. Ryan  
Pte. G. C. Shorten  
Pte. B. G. Jones  
Pte. J. K. Floyd  
Pte. E. E. Mackenzie  
Pte. C. Fraser  
Pte. S. M. Harris  
Pte. E. G. Ross  
Pte. M. Hicks

*To M.E.L.F.*

A./Sgt. P. Whitlam  
A./Cpl. J. Conway  
A./Cpl. M. Brigham  
A./Cpl. M. M. Shearer  
Pte. M. Sanders  
Pte. D. Burris  
Pte. J. McGavin  
Pte. M. Haddock  
Pte. P. Arnold  
Pte. M. Martindale

Pte. M. Dennison  
Pte. J. Stanley  
Pte. R. J. Bell  
Pte. E. M. V. Brady  
Pte. C. Donald  
Pte. C. Hopkins  
Pte. T. M. Newbold

*To B.A.O.R.*

A./Sgt. I. Fox  
A./Cpl. H. George  
Pte. M. T. McEwan  
Pte. J. Arnold  
Pte. S. Blair  
Pte. M. Dooley  
Pte. E. Westwood  
Pte. T. M. Burke  
Pte. M. Douglas  
Pte. P. Harper  
Pte. M. Morris  
Pte. P. Chambers  
Pte. H. O'Donnell  
Pte. M. Hardy  
Pte. E. Smith  
Pte. J. Hebert  
Pte. R. Timmermans  
Pte. M. Smillie

## OFFICERS

*From M.E.L.F.*

Major D. Lister  
Capt. E. Ferguson  
Capt. B. M. Mitchell  
Lieut. D. Ward  
Lieut. J. S. Raitt

*From W.A.C.*

Lieut. E. M. Pringle

*From Jamaica*

Capt. E. M. Craig  
Capt. M. Ball

*From Japan*

Lieut. I. M. Shaw  
Lieut. M. Keenan

## OTHER RANKS

*From M.E.L.F.*

Pte. E. Whitehouse  
Pte. B. Sweeney  
Pte. M. W. Redding

Pte. M. Quin

*From B.A.O.R.*

Cpl. E. Scott

# Promotions

## OFFICERS

*December*—Captain to Major : H. D. Duncan (28th).

*January*—Captain to Major : M. M. Mount (1st), A. Looram, A.R.R.C. (1st), E. Quinton (29th). Lieut. to Captain : R. M. Brown (5th), H. Strachan (5th), E. Roche (7th), K. Burke (17th).

*February*—Captain to Major : M. Neish (1st), A. Raine (4th). Lieut. to Captain : K. M. Dinan (7th).

*March*—Captain to Major : E. Carter (7th). Lieut. to Captain : D. Watts (16th), J. D. Collyer (30th).

*April*—Lieut.-Colonel to Colonel : O. M. Watson, O.B.E., R.R.C. (2nd). Major to Lieut.-Colonel : D. E. Richards, A.R.R.C. (2nd).

## OTHER RANKS

*May and August, 1952*—Pte. to Sub./Cpl. : A. E. Greenhill (May 5th), L./Cpl. to Sub./Cpl. : E. Searle (Aug. 12th), Pte. to Sub./Cpl. : B. S. Knappett (Aug. 12th), E. M. Marshall (Aug. 28th), E. Thomas (Aug. 28th).

*October*—Pte. to A./L./Cpl. : S. Teed (20th)

*November*—Cpl. to A./Sgt. : J. Rutherford (21st), L./Cpl. to A./Cpl. E. A. Grant (21st), Pte. to A./Cpl. : B. M. Troy (28th), Pte. to A./L./Cpl. : D. Hollyhead (17th).

*December*—Pte. to A./L./Cpl. : J. Eames (14th), M. Kitching (17th).

*January, 1953*—Cpl. to A./Sgt. : I. Smith (14th), Pte. to A./Cpl. : C. F. B. Underwood (6th), Pte. to A./L./Cpl. : M. Sharp (8th) W. Moseley (20th), J. Berry (30th), M. P. Dunn (12th), P. W. Millhouse (23rd), A. Mitchell (30th).

*February*—Cpl. to A./Sgt. : I. D. Fox (22nd). L./Cpl. to A./Cpl. : J. D. McCormick (12th). Pte. to A./L./Cpl. : M. H. D. Lowrie (12th), J. Gore (12th).

*March*—Cpl. to A./Sgt. : P. M. C. Whitlam (14th). Pte. to A./Cpl. : M. M. A. Shearer (14th).

# Retirements and Resignations

*December*—Capt. O. W. Steels, Lieut. N. Yule (*née* Randall), Lieut. D. E. Wardell (*née* Aufray-Jones), Lieut. P. Cranston-Low (*née* Warwick), Lieut. A. E. James (*née* Critcher).

*January*—Capts. M. M. Walsh, B. P. Penny, E. W. Wright, A. F. Slater (*née* Crouch), C. Rouse (*née* O'Rourke), Lieuts. E. M. O'Sullivan, M. B. L. Brown, E. M. Mills, J. Heath, C. M. Johnson.

*February*—Capts. S. Rhys-Jones, A.R.R.C., K. Driscoll, Lieuts. E. Wales, M. Potter (*née* Battye), M. M. Scotchmere (*née* Adair), P. M. M. Walls (*née* Lawler), M. T. C. Dexter (*née* Moran).

*March*—Colonel A. S. Watson, R.R.C., Major D. Lister, A.R.R.C., Capts. M. Coffey, E. M. Makepeace, Lieuts. B. M. Curtis, M. M. Wright, E. W. Kaye, C. Welsh, D. Ward, A. Browne, S. Gardner, M. Stephenson, S. B. Worsfold.

# Births Marriages and Deaths

## *Births*

WHITTAKER.—On March 21st, 1953, at Arbroath, Scotland, to Lyn (*née* Morris), ex Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R), wife of Lieut. Commander (E), C. F. Whittaker, R. N., twins (Margaret and Robert).

## *Marriages*

On 20th December, 1952, at Kowloon, Hong Kong, Captain Derek C. James, R.A.M.C. to Lieut. Audrey E. Critcher, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 10th January, 1953, at Aberdeen, George A. Slater to Capt. Agnes F. Crouch, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 29th January, 1953, at West Norwood, S.E.27, Major Cecil M. Rouse to Capt. Catherine O'Rourke, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 9th February, 1953, at Bishopwearmouth, Co. Durham, Lieut. Charles G. Potter to Lieut. Mavis Battye, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 14th February, 1953, at Newbiggin, Richmond, Yorks, to Lieut. Alan C. Dexter, R. of Signals, to Lieut. Mary T. C. Moran, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 14th February, 1953, at Perak, Malaya, Denys R. Scotchmer to Lieut. Mary M. Adair, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 7th February, 1953, at Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, Major George P. Walls, S.A.S. Regiment to Lieut. Philomena B. Lawler, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 6th February, 1953, at Hong Kong, F/O Ronald Blair, R.A.F., to Lieut. Jean A. Scott, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 15th December, 1952, at Calcutta, Roy F. Watson, to Capt. Joan Brock, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 4th April, 1953, at Iserlohn, Germany, Captain Alexander R. Price, R.E.M.E., to Lieut. Katherine Y. Curran, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

On 29th October, 1952, at Basrah, Iraq, M. J. K. Brown, to Barbara Potter, ex Q.I.A.M.N.S. (R), (A.404).

## Other Ranks marriages :

On 24th December, 1952, Cyril Williams to Pte. M. Earnshaw.

On 24th December, 1952, George Roy to Pte. G. I. Garbutt.

On 24th December, 1952, William Robert Bendall, to Pte. E. E. Leadbetter.

- On 15th December, 1952, John Walter Reynolds, to Pte. B. S. Knappett.
- On 20th December, 1952, Roland Arthur Hunt to Pte. H. W. Eastham.
- On 12th December, 1952, Domenic Donald Cox to Pte. P. P. I. Mansfield.
- On 13th December, 1952, Brian Charles Taylor to L./Cpl. Holleyhead.
- On 10th January, 1953, A. A. W. Warnes to Pte. B. Risbridger.
- On 2nd July, 1952, J. Kennedy to Pte. Havord.
- On 27th December, 1952, G. Howells to Pte. J. V. Wood.
- On 17th January, 1953, K. J. Ambler to Pte Stannard.
- On 31st December, 1952, L./Cpl Gill (REME) to Pte. B. C. Walkington.
- On 17th January, 1953, Raymond Walter Fusco to Pte. J. M. T. Menear.
- On 3rd January, 1953, Sjt. Taaffe (REME) to Pte. J. Alexander.
- On 17th January, 1953, Piper I. Mackintosh to Pte. Dudley Mr. Jackson to Pte. J. Rowley.
- On 11th January, 1953, Thomas Clackers to Pte. T. McGuire.
- On 17th January, 1953, A. G. Smitham to Pte. Ellwood
- On 17th February, 1953, James White to Pte. H. M. Budd.  
Alfred Thomas Hurst to Pte. S. M. Deane
- On 21st February, 1953, Andrew Harte to Pte. S. Griffiths.
- On 21st February, 1953, Gerald Dutfield to Pte. L. Edgar.
- On 14th February, 1953, Reginald T. Cosgrove to L./Cpl. L. Eames.
- On 28th February, 1953, Donald Stanley Clark to Pte. Clarke.
- On 27th February, 1953, Eric Edward Cozens to Pte. T. T. Healey.
- On 31st January, 1953, Pte. A. Eastwell, A. (RAMC) to Pte. Heafey.
- On 7th March, 1953, Louis George Ormrod to Pte. Sumner.
- On 14th February, 1953, Mr. A. Kuuz to Pte. M. Stokes.
- On February, 1953, Pte. D. F. J. Cunningham to Pte. R. Edwards.
- On 7th March, 1953, John Peter Sales to Pte. L. K. Williams.
- On 14th March, 1953, Eric Dean to Cpl. J. Bates.
- On 14th March, 1953, Tpr. E. C. West (Dragoon Guards) to Pte. Nobbs.
- On 21st March, 1953, Thomas Hugh Jones to Pte. J. S. Brown.
- On 7th March, 1953, Cpl. J. H. Clewes (RAMC) to Pte. A. Houghton.
- On 19th March, 1953, Pte. K. W. R. Clark (ACC.) to Pte. P. M. Greenwell.

### *Deaths*

**HORDLEY.**—On February 21st, 1953, at Bangor, North Wales, Miss Edith H. Hordley, R.R.C., late Matron Q.A.I.M.N.S.

**HUMPHREY.**—On April 20th, 1953, at Bath, Somerset. Miss Ina Doris Humfrey (A.37), Q.A.I.M.N.S. Matron (Retired). Served 1908-1931.

Mrs. E. H. Mills (A.1693) represented the Association at Memorial Service held in Abbey Church, Bath. Guard of honour was formed by "Old Contemptibles." Cremation at Arno's Vale Crematorium.

**ROSS.**—On March 4th, 1953, at Aberdeen, Scotland, Miss May C. Ross, ex Q.A.I.M.N.S. (R).

**MANFIELD.**—Recently at Leeds, Miss Mabel Manfield, R.R.C., aged 85 years, ex T.A.N.S.

**ALDERMAN.**—Recently in London, Miss E. M. Alderman, R.R.C., ex T.A.N.S.

**SILKSTONE.**—Miss Evelyn Mary, R.R.C., ex Q.A.I.M.N.S. Service 21/11/19 to 5/3/46. Honorary Principal Matron. On Monday, April 14th, 1953 at Kingston.

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## Miss Helen Thom

Miss Helen Thom, whose death in New Zealand on Christmas Eve was briefly referred to in the February GAZETTE, was the first New Zealand member of the Association, and one of the best loved and most respected citizens of Kaikhohe, where she had been Plunket Nurse for sixteen years.

A Scotswoman, from Strathmiglo in Fife, widely travelled and extremely well-read, she trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and served with Q.A.I.M.N.S. during the 1914 war. Her bright personality, together with her intense interest in everyone she met, left lasting and affectionate memories with all who knew her.

She was buried in the Servicemen's Plot in Kaikhohe cemetery, and a representative party of ex-servicemen of three wars scattered Flanders poppies on her grave.

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## Annual General Meeting

THE FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association was held on Saturday, 28th March, 1953, at 20, John Islip Street, Millbank London, S.W.1.

The Chairman opened the meeting by a few words of tribute to Queen Mary our Patron, voicing the sorrow, pride, and gratitude felt in our connection with one so revered, whose long years had

been the triumph of a life lived to completeness in all circumstances. The meeting stood in silence honouring the memory of Her Majesty.

The Chairman then welcomed the members saying what a pleasure it was to see so many and giving special welcome to Brigadier H. S. Gillespie, Matron-in-Chief. It was the largest attendance so far at the Annual General Meeting.

*Audited Accounts were presented*

*Elected to Central Committee (4 vacancies)*

Vice-Chairman :

Miss D. C. Bridges, R.R.C., ex T.A.N.S.

Members :

Col. A. S. Watson, R.R.C., Q.A.R.A.N.C., retired

Mrs. E. J. Blackburn, ex T.A.N.S.

Col. E. M. B. Dyson, Q.A.R.A.N.C., retired

*Important matters decided*

1. Branch Committees meet twice a year or as often as the Committee considers desirable in the interests of the Branch.
2. Annual General Meetings to be held elsewhere than at Millbank to allow of Other Ranks attendance which is not permitted in an Officers Mess.
3. No increase to be made in amount of membership (2/6) and GAZETTE (5/-) subscription for 1954. Instead—see 4.
4. A combined membership subscription inclusive of GAZETTE for all new and re-joined members to be put into effect at the beginning of 1954, concessions to be worked out for any existing paid-up members only, who may wish to exercise option of not taking GAZETTE or making use of Shared GAZETTE schemes.
5. Date of Annual General Meeting to be changed from March to June and/or to coincide with that of Reunion when such function is held.

*Important announcements made*

1. Tickets for 1953 Reunion should be applied for at once. Price 10/- members (i.e., paid-up members) 12/6d. non-members (includes one-time members whose subscription have lapsed.)  
Reunion at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge on Saturday, 6th June, from 4-6 p.m.
2. Arrangements are proposed whereby 1954 Annual General Meeting will precede the Reunion at the same place.  
A pleasant short social function was held with tea after the meeting closed.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I have pleasure in submitting a report on the work of the Association for the last twelve months.

#### *Membership*

There are 432 life members—2 deaths.

There are 3109 Annual members' names on our books. 8 deaths and 1294 lapsed subscriptions—leaving 1805 paid-up members for the year 1952. To date this year there are 803.

#### *Branches (5).*

Scottish	Life members	12	Annual	151
Australian	„	9	„	62
Midland	„	16	„	92
E. African	„	4	„	53
New Zealand	„	2	„	45

It is interesting to note that all 62 Australian annual members have paid up to the end of 1956.

#### *Social activities*

The seventh London Re-Union was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Saturday, 7th June, 1952, as part of the Corps Week celebrations for the Golden Jubilee of the Military Nursing Service. It was well attended, about 450 being present and was a most enjoyable gathering. This annual function is the most important social event of the year for the Association, as members come from all over the country. Branches organise social events in their own areas and display much variety in their efforts to bring their members together, and are generally successful. Fund raising is frequently combined with social events.

In the past the London Re-Union has caused us financial headaches, but in the last two years, has paid for itself comfortably and cleared back debts. We do not expect any back-sliding—rather the reverse as payment for social events is not accepted by the Managing Trustees as part of their commitments.

The Association Cup was presented for the first time at the 1952 Re-Union. It is given annually from all members of the Association to the serving officer or other rank, who in the opinion of the Corps has contributed most to their sports prestige during the preceding year (June-May).

Capt. M. M. Bridgwater of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot & T.E. is the first and present holder. The personal memento was a small scarlet leather frame with her name and enclosing a silver and enamel duplicate of the Association badge on plinth of Cup.

#### *Representation*

The plot on the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey in November was the only opportunity afforded the Association to officially represent their members. Miss E. A. Baldock, Miss M. Walden and Miss M. T. McDonnell attended the opening and laid wreaths on your behalf.

### *Benevolence*

The Friend's Scheme is developing. There are more Friends visiting for us in various parts of the country apart from those doing so within Branch organisations.

The three Benevolent Funds, Q.A.I.M.N.S. (which includes the Ethel Harwood Trust), T.A.N.S. and that of the Association, now have 24 annuitants in all—that is an increase of 5 on the last year's total. Two annuitants have died in the last twelve months. There are 77 other names on our books. These receive occasional grants or a gift at Christmas. Small gifts or flowers are also sent to sick members of whom we hear. The total cost of benevolent work for 1952 amounts to about £1,567. This includes any benevolent work carried out by Branches for which they have claimed, but in most cases Branches have raised money and borne their own costs.

Members may be interested to hear that this year we have loaned £70 to a member in difficulties although in active nursing. The circumstances were such that this assistance relieved great distress of mind and has enabled the member to take up a fresh nursing post. She is now regularly sending instalments in repayment of the loan.

We are very grateful for the garments sent in, all of which have been most useful and greatly appreciated by recipients.

Other assistance has been given to members such as providing holidays or convalescence, making enquiries for homes, suitable work, etc.

Special mention should be made of the 25 parcels sent out at Christmas. The Friends' Secretary gave much time and thought to the contents and how they were packed, the idea being to provide a good menu for Christmas Day meals. The parcel contained :—

Tin of Chicken	Tea	Crackers
Christmas Pudding	Preserves	Sugar
„ Cake	Biscuits	Holly
Tin of Peas	Sweets	
Stuffed Dates	Tin of Tongue	

needless to say they gave very great pleasure. We are most grateful to members who sent us goods to be included in the parcels. 250 Christmas cards were sent out in addition.

### *Gazette*

The twelve months since the last A.G.M. have been very busy in this direction. Many changes have taken place.

Volume I has been completed and Volume II has begun with quite a different set-up, more suitable to the Association pocket. It is hoped that this will be successful and lead to a very much larger subscription list.

The quieter note struck by the new cover comes almost as a shock after its more flamboyant predecessor but no doubt we shall get used to it. A GAZETTE Committee has been formed on which there are members' representatives in addition to the Editors and



Honorary Officers. They have had two meetings so far but they cannot be your true representatives unless members send in their comments, criticisms, and wishes to put before the Committee.

There is also a new Editor, Miss Drummond-Hay, eager to receive material for publication. She is assisted by Mrs. B. Cobden.

The Committee is very anxious that the GAZETTE should not become only a Corps GAZETTE. There is always a tendency that way because there are recognised channels through which Corps news can be obtained, whereas other members spread about the world as individuals cannot be stimulated in an organised way and the Editor has to depend mainly on each one's own interest. Material from and of interest to all sorts of members is required. It is our Association GAZETTE, and Association members come from very varied fields of activity and retirement. I would remind you that a binding for Volume I can be obtained from the Courtenay Press Ltd., who are the GAZETTE publishers.

A shared GAZETTE Subscription Scheme has been started to help those of our members who want to see the GAZETTE but have to keep their few spare shillings for more pressing necessities. It is a very small scheme of course but meets a need and has started well. This had led to several members sending two full subscriptions, the additional one being to use for some other member who could not otherwise have the GAZETTE.

A personal advertising column has been started for the convenience of members at the request of a few, but so far has been very little used. It is very cheap.

The total number of GAZETTE subscriptions stands at 685. Last year at this time it was 697, which mounted through the year 887. If the GAZETTE is to go on the number of subscriptions must be very greatly increased. The GAZETTE Committee wish Association members to consider the advisability of having a combined subscription for membership and GAZETTE.

I must make it clear that except by increased subscriptions either in number or amount (perhaps both may be necessary) the financial position of the GAZETTE cannot be improved. The General Fund of the Association has propped it up by a loan and will continue to help it during the two year agreement which has been made with the present publishers, *but it is a loan* to be repaid as soon as possible, for every penny of the General (i.e. the Central Fund) is required to establish the Association on a firm basis.

We have two years to get the GAZETTE on to its own feet by increasing the financial value of the subscription list in one way or other.

#### *Army Sisters' Memorial Fund*

This Fund was not previously controlled by the Association through its Central Committee, but it was unanimously agreed in July last, that it should be transferred to the Association.

Eight grants towards course expenses have been made during the year amounting to £320 (3 @ £50, 3 @ £35, 1 @ £40, 1 @ £25). A donation of £50 was sent to the St. Andrews Cathedral War Memorial Hall at Singapore. I am hoping to put an article in the GAZETTE sometime, giving information about all the memorials in which we have an interest.

The Memorial Book "One Hundred Years of Army Nursing" is being published in late April or early May by Cassells. The price is 21/-. Much of the material and pictures re memorials and casualties, which had to be sorted through for the purposes of the book, will in due course be passed on to the Corps Museum when that is started. Many members have been most helpful in obtaining photos, lists, etc. The Chairman of the Scottish Branch obtained particulars and a photograph of the Nurses Memorial Panel in the Scottish National War Memorial and a list of the names of those commemorated. A Branch member who wishes to remain anonymous has had this list bound in leather. We are, I am sure, all very grateful for the interest shown.

The benefits of this Fund can only be applied to assist those who served in the last war, in taking courses to further their career, and there is a time limit for such a purpose.

It should be possible at the most in a year or two to consider winding up the affairs of the Army Sisters' Memorial Fund, probably transferring any balance there may be to the Association Benevolent Fund.

#### *Management*

The Central Committee has met four times, the Finance and Grants Committee five times, the Army Sisters Memorial Fund Committee twice, and the GAZETTE Committee twice during the last twelve months. The Chairman of the Association is an *ex-officio* member of Queen Mary's House Fund Committee and has attended six meetings in the last twelve months.

It has been a very busy year and a worrying one too, for we have now entered the fifth year of the Association existence and we should be firmly established by now. The work of the Association is on a good basis and is expanding, and we are certain that it meets a need, but the financial support from our members is precarious. Unless this serious weakness in our situation can be strengthened, the work can only continue for a limited period. Some remedy must be agreed on the question of membership and GAZETTE subscriptions at once. The details ought to be worked out in the next few months in order that whatever is decided can be put into practice for 1954. It is impossible to allow the matter to drift on to the next A.G.M. The continued existence of the Association depends upon a satisfactory solution to this pressing problem.

Our Treasurer will give you the report on the audited accounts for 1952, but as the Administrator of the Association and in my

capacity as your Chairman, I can do no less than stress to you, the position of the Funds which cause our anxiety. They are chiefly :- The Central Fund and the Gazette Fund, both dependant for income on yearly subscriptions from members. They are both taxed far beyond their strength, because a very large proportion of our membership lapses each year. I want you to note LAPSES ! not resigns—hence the subscriptions of those who *do* maintain membership have to bear the cost of constant reminders to those who do not. It is asking a lot that a 2/6d. subscription, just adequate five years ago, should be sufficient now but it would give us infinite pleasure to really receive those subscriptions and “have a go” at trying to make do. It is NOT possible to make do on about half the amount.

The Q.A.I.M.N.S. Benevolent Fund and the Association Benevolent Fund are both in somewhat similar positions. The young Association Fund which should be strengthened and built up is having to bear much of the burden of the older Q.A.I.M.N.S. Fund. This to me, is not so distressing as the plight of the Central and GAZETTE Funds, for I think in time a way out will be found. No progress has been achieved in obtaining permission to use the capital of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. Fund, but fresh efforts are to be made.

This last year we were fortunate in receiving a number of donations from Corps units and other sources towards benevolence and general purposes. Such gifts are a wonderful help but they cannot be regarded as regular income. They are much appreciated windfalls. Regular income MUST come from investments and subscriptions. It is one thing to attempt to obtain permission to use capital of a Fund which can only be used for a small diminishing body of people, but it is quite another, and a very crazy thing to do, to use capital of young funds which have to serve the future as well as the present. You are the deciding authority over Association Funds, and it is essential that you take sufficient interest to discriminate between use of capital and income.

FINALLY, I would like to end my report by recording sincere thanks to our honorary Officers at Headquarters and Branches and all who have helped in any way. Members know that all work done is on a voluntary basis except for one clerical assistant, Mrs. Vining. It will be of interest to all of you to know that Mrs. Vining is an Association member, so too is her mother.

I cannot go into details of the Hon. Treasurer's work or that of the two Hon. Secretaries here at Headquarters. It is never ending and spreads out into their homes. Our Assistant Editor, whose work is naturally more limited in sphere and time, finds that when on the spot she is fast becoming “General Assistant.” The Editor has not been with us long enough yet for her to be drawn into the general net. To them all, each in her job, I can but say a heartfelt Thank you.

# Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association

*Head Office* : 20 John Islip Street, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

## *Honorary Officers :*

Administrator and Chairman ...	DAME LOUISA WILKINSON, D.B.E., R.R.C.
General Secretary and Membership Secretary ...	MRS. A. HUMPAGE
Friends' Secretary ...	Mrs. E. H. MILLS
Treasurer ...	MISS E. A. BALDOCK
Gazette Editor ...	MISS M. C. DRUMMOND-HAY
Assistant Editor ...	MRS. B. COBDEN

## *Branch Secretaries :*

Australia ( <i>Joint Secretaries</i> ) ...	MISS M. CHALMERS, The Women's Hospital, Carlton, N.3, Victoria. MISS M. J. MITCHELL, Williamson General Hospital, near Melbourne, Victoria.
East Africa ...	MRS. E. D. B. BROWSE, P.O. Box 1538, Nairobi, Kenya.
Midland ...	MISS V. M. WHITEMAN, R.R.C., 65 Bell Lane, Marston, Warwickshire.
New Zealand ...	MRS. A. E. HATFIELD, 77 Bassett Road, Remeura, Auckland, S.E.2.
Scottish ...	MRS. H. D. B. ANDERSON, 13 Montgomery Street, Edinburgh, 7.

## Central Committee

*Chairman and Administrator* : ... DAME LOUISA WILKINSON, D.B.E., R.R.C.

*Vice-Chairman* ... MISS D. C. BRIDGES, R.R.C.

## *Committee :*

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MISS I. C. C. WITHERS, R.R.C.  
COL. N. P. DE B. BAMPTON R.R.C., Commandant, Depot.  
LT.-COL. E. J. STIRLING, War Office, A.M.D.4.  
Chairman of each Branch.  
MRS. A. HUMPAGE, R.R.C., Hon. Gen. Secretary.  
MRS. E. H. MILLS, Hon. Friends Secretary  
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