



THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY
NURSING CORPS ASSOCIATION

GAZETTE

Vol. 1 No. 9

February, 1952

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

Patron:

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY, *Colonel-in-Chief*, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Vol. 1. No. 9

FEBRUARY, 1952

Editorial

THE GAZETTE has entered its third year, and we who are at the Association wheel hope very much that the journal will not only survive but develop. We believe that both the Corps and the Association need this means of information and interest. Alas, at the moment there is grave danger of the GAZETTE being abandoned. It cannot thrive without an Editor to tend it. We have not sat back and waited for volunteers for that post—just as well, since none have been forthcoming, though one member out of the whole Association membership kindly offered some help with the work. We have approached various members, so far without any success. It is a poor tale if you want the GAZETTE to go on. Great efforts have been made to produce this number to maintain continuity, in the hope that a new Editor may be found before we are forced to the decision that the GAZETTE must cease.

In the meantime a few designs for the GAZETTE cover are coming in, and a special Committee is to meet in April to finally consider them and choose an outer coat for what is hoped will be, a year hence, the fourth birthday appearance of a reinvigorated Q.A.R.A.N.C. ASSOCIATION GAZETTE. If there are any more designs to come in, let us have them before 31st March, 1952.

The Membership Secretary is grateful for the good response to her letter. It has been most helpful. She hopes to hear from the rest of the members in the next week or two, either about their membership or GAZETTE subscription, or both.



[Photo by Dorothy Wilding]

All members of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association wish to express their deep sympathy with The Queen, The Queen Mother, our own revered patron Queen Mary, and all the Royal Family on the death of His Majesty King George VI whose loss we and the whole British Commonwealth mourn. May God's blessing rest on our new Queen.

A wreath has been sent to Windsor Castle on behalf of all members of the Association, bearing the inscription "In honoured memory of our beloved King"—The wreath consisted of a model of the Association badge in colour, poppies outlining both sides of the border, leaving crown, scroll and centre cross clear. A letter of sympathy was sent to Her Majesty Queen Mary and has been acknowledged. The Colonel Commandant also signed the books at Buckingham Palace and Marlborough House.

* * * *

A Wreath was sent by Q.A.R.A.N.C. to the Funeral of His Majesty King George VI.

This was an oval wreath of laurel approximately 4 ft. 6 in. high, with a large "A" of red carnations filling the centre.

The Corps ribbon was at the base, and from there a spray of flowers in colours to tone with the ribbon spread to the sides of the wreath, so arranged as not to obscure the central letter.

The card bore the inscription "In loyal memory from all ranks Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps."

* * * *

Telegrams of sympathy were sent as follows :

TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, Q.A.R.A.N.C.,
MARLBOROUGH HOUSE

In this time of such deep sorrow to all His Majesty's subjects we send to Her Majesty Queen Mary our Colonel-in-Chief an expression of devoted loyalty and deepest sympathy from all ranks of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

(Signed) MATRON-IN-CHIEF AND DIRECTOR OF
ARMY NURSING SERVICES.

Reply received from Marlborough House

TO THE MATRON-IN-CHIEF, WAR OFFICE

My heartfelt thanks to all ranks of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps for their sympathy in my great sorrow.

(Signed) MARY R., *Colonel-in-Chief.*

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 at this time of terrible loss felt by all His Majesty's subjects.

(Signed) MATRON-IN-CHIEF AND DIRECTOR OF
ARMY NURSING SERVICES.

Reply received from Buckingham Palace

TO THE MATRON-IN-CHIEF, QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY
NURSING CORPS

Her Majesty has deeply appreciated your telegram of sympathy.

(Signed) PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS to our members who have been awarded Honours :

O.B.E. ... Lieut.-Colonel Olive Mary Watson, R.R.C.,
Q.A.R.A.N.C. (L71)

R.R.C. (First Class) Major Yolanda Kathleen Davey, Q.A.R.A.N.C.
(L14)

A.R.R.C. ... Major Kathleen Mary Blair, Q.A.R.A.N.C.
(L245)

A.R.R.C. ... Captain Margaret Pratt, Q.A.R.A.N.C. (L53)

Mentioned in despatches for services in Malaya: Lieut. M. P.
Revell, Q.A.R.A.N.C. (A1190)

Q.A.R.A.N.C. Corps Week

1952 is Jubilee Year for Q.A.R.A.N.C. The Corps celebrates fifty years under Royal Warrant as Q.A.I.M.N.S. and Q.A.R.A.N.C. This anniversary is to be marked by holding a Corps Week in the first week of June.

The Q.A. social functions—in particular, the Q.A. At Home—which have become annual events will not be held as usual this year. Instead it has been decided to concentrate on the Corps Week. All details are not final yet, but it is expected that the programme will be as follows :

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Tuesday, 3rd June | } | Medforth Cup Tennis Tournament at the |
| Wednesday, 4th June | | Officers' Club, Aldershot. |
| Wednesday, 4th June | | Q.A.R.A.N.C. All Ranks' Dance at the
Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot and T.E. |
| Thursday, 5th June ... | | At the Depot and T.E. a Parade, Luncheon Party, Corps Sports, Tea and Prizegiving. |
| Friday, 6th June ... | | Service at Millbank Hospital Chapel.
Reception at Q.A.R.A.N.C. Officers' Mess, Millbank. |
| Saturday, 7th June ... | | Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association Reunion. |

The last item—the Association Reunion—has been definitely arranged. It will take place at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge. Members will be informed of details later.

From Here and There

Catterick Camp

The Q.A.R.A.N.C., under the able leadership of Lieut.-Colonel E. G. M. Reynolds, organized a most successful Bazaar in November at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, in aid of the Association Benevolent Fund.

It was opened by the Colonel Commandant, Q.A.R.A.N.C. and was well attended by local friends.

The proceeds far exceeded expectations and a cheque for £210/12/7 has been paid into the Fund. Members of the Association will be delighted to hear this and will wish their gratitude and appreciation to be expressed, not only for the result, but for the interest displayed and the hard work undertaken. Thank you, Catterick.

Millbank

Captain M. L. Holt, Q.A.R.A.N.C., who is taking the Health Visitors' Course at the Royal College of Nursing, is a member of the London Choral Society and sang in the choir at the performance of "The Messiah" at the Royal Festival Hall on 2nd February.

United Nations Hospitals, Korea

I was in Korea for three days from 8th to 10th October, 1951. The object of my visit was to meet representatives of the American, Swedish and Norwegian Nursing Services, and to offer them the hospitality of the Women's Services Mess, Kure, should they wish to spend leave in that area, and to visit their hospitals.

I left Japan on 7th October in H.M.T. *Empire Orwell en route* for Pusan. It is a wonderful experience to be able to sit in a deck chair for hours, quietly absorbing the beauty of the Inland Sea with its volcanic mountains, some scrub covered and some wooded, the day ending in a sunset of intense pink-mauve changing to indigo blue—an experience one will always remember.

On arrival at Pusan I was driven to the Swedish Red Cross Hospital, through five miles of the most depressing and congested state of poverty, with its sub-human-looking population, the worst that I have ever seen in any Eastern country. I was met by the Chief Nurse, Major Thore, who escorted me round the hospital. This building had been converted from a school. Although the wards were austere-looking with a minimum of equipment, the interest and efforts of the doctors and nurses to do their best were evident in the cheerful and contented atmosphere of the patients. A great deal of good work is done by this unit, not only with the United Nations Forces, but also with the Korean refugees.

In the afternoon Major Thore showed me a small pre-war civilian hospital which takes all refugee patients. She allows two nursing officers to assist a Korean doctor to administrate the hospital and instruct Korean girls in nursing.

Lack of equipment, linen and a restricted amount of drugs was a handicap. It was the old and decrepit men and women one noticed, who were so grateful for a bed and food.

The T.B. and infectious patients were nursed on stretchers in tents in the grounds of the hospital.

The T.Bs. were a sad sight in their advanced state of disease. My admiration for the efforts and endurance of the doctor and nurses against such odds could not be expressed.

My next visit was to the 10th American Station Hospital, where I was met by the Chief Nurse and later the Commanding Officer. This hospital is located higher up the hillside away from the squalor of the town in a large compound and was a school before its conversion to a hospital. The large schoolrooms made good airy wards. As a battle was going on at the time the hospital was very busy. A very happy atmosphere prevailed with the patients, many of whom were well enough to enjoy the amenities of the Red Cross recreation room.

Meals for the doctors and nurses are served at a hospital canteen on a cafeteria system. Nissen huts provide living accommodation (four to a room). Each hospital has a club at which officers can meet and entertain their friends when off duty.

My last visit that day was to the American hospital ship *Consolation*. What a magnificent sight she was alongside the wharf in her spotlessly white paint, the sea a particularly lovely blue colour and the hills in the distance. I was met by the Chief Nurse, Lieut. Mallen, who showed me over the ship. She was a complete floating hospital, superbly equipped, with every department functioning, and a deck to receive patients arriving by helicopter. I reluctantly said good-bye to Lieut. Mallen and her staff. The general atmosphere of the ship was delightful, and I would have liked to have stayed longer.

The evening was spent with the Station Commander, Colonel Maxwell, and his officers, where I met several friends I had known on the *Lancashire* on our voyage to Japan in October, 1950.

Next morning, 9th October, I left Pusan *en route* for Seoul. On my way to the airfield I was able to visit the United Nations Cemetery. Each country has its own section. As one came up the hill the flags of the United Nations can be seen fluttering in the breeze—a most impressive sight. The cemetery is beautifully laid out in terraces on the side of a hill, with a valley at the foot and the sea in the distance.

On arrival at Kimpo Airfield I was taken to Seoul, a distance of twenty miles along the best bit of road I had seen in Korea. The surrounding country all the way was flat and cultivated.

After lunch I set out for the 121st American Evacuation Hospital, where a very interesting 1½ hours were spent with the Chief Nurse visiting the wards. This again was a converted school, extremely busy and run on the same lines as the other American field hospitals. The same courtesy and kindness I had received in the other units existed here.

At 6 p.m. I left Seoul with an officer escort for the Norwegian Medical Army Surgical Hospital, which was at Uijongbu twenty-five

miles distant, where I had planned to stay the night. On arrival I found that they had moved twenty-five miles farther up toward the front the day before. This was a great disappointment, as I had heard a great deal about the excellent work this mobile surgical unit had done, and I was particularly interested in meeting their nursing staff. As we were driving in a blackout area on a very bad road, and the present location of the NORMASH was not known, I thought it prudent to return to Seoul for the night. I was very comfortably accommodated at the C.-in-C.'s house, formerly the British Embassy.

Next day, 10th October, I visited the 25th Canadian Field Dressing Station, which has recently been expanded to 200 beds and was evacuating the more serious Commonwealth sick and wounded direct to Kure. The conversion of this building and its organization as a hospital reflected great credit on the Officer Commanding, Major Dalzell, R.C.A.M.C., and his staff.

I would have liked to have had time to see what remains of the ancient buildings of Seoul and more of the Korean countryside. In spite of the bombed condition of the town, there was evidence of what must have been fine modern buildings before the war.

I left Kimpo Airfield the same day at 12.30 for Japan. Not a lot can be seen from the window of a Courier plane, but it was fascinating to be flying just above what appeared to be the green and brown hills or mountains of Korea, with the valleys between and the tidy patches of cultivation and paddy fields below.

A welcome break was made at Taegu and Pusan on the way home, with just time enough for coffee and doughnuts at the American Red Cross Field Service Canteen, which gives excellent service on the Korean airfields.

My three-day whirlwind visit came to an end on reaching Iwakuni, with two hours' launch trip up the Inland Sea to Kure. I had had a very interesting and satisfying visit from the point of view of seeing the good work that is being done for the sick and wounded of the United Nations in Korea.

PHYLLIS WIDGER (LI16).

Colombo

c/o Messrs. Brown & Co. Ltd.,
P.O. Box 200,
Colombo, Ceylon.
Tel.: Colombo 5341.

3rd January, 1952.

In response to your appeal I am enclosing cheque for 37s. 6d. to cover five years' membership and magazine fees.

I would like to add how much I appreciate receiving the magazine out here, and wish you all success in your efforts.

Out here I feel far removed from Q.A. Association activities, but

think I might be able to help in a small way by welcoming any members who may be on their way out East.

Nearly all ships call at Colombo, giving passengers opportunity of spending a few hours ashore. If any member would care to make contact with the above address—telephone only between 8 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.—I shall do my best to meet them and help them to have a happy visit to Colombo.

Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

E. A. PRESCOTT (*née* TICKLE), A731.

Ascension Island, South Atlantic

I have been doing a six months' Matron's post for Cable and Wireless, and as I am a non-swimmer and the waters are shark-infested anyway, I have to stay put until the Company decide to send a relief and book me a return passage, which they don't appear to be in any hurry to do.

This is the most weird and fantastic little island imaginable. I have heard it called Gilbert and Sullivan, which I think suits it extremely well. It is about 6 by 7 miles square of just dust and clinker and old volcanic peaks dumped in the middle of the South Atlantic between the West African and the South American coasts. The nearest place is St. Helena, which is 800 miles away.

Ships call about every four to six weeks, which is always a high day and holiday. They anchor about a mile out, and if we want to go on board we go out on a launch after a small precarious trip in a dinghy, when my hair always stands on end with my heart in my shoes. The landing stage just sends cold showers down my spine. The day I first landed I swore I'd never go off again until the day I sailed for home. I just felt like a monkey swinging on a couple of ropes and expected at any moment to have a good dipping and possibly be fed to the sharks.

The community consists of about 40 Europeans, including children, and 120 St. Helena working staff. There are no natives of the island—all imported.

There are no shops; one canteen with exorbitant prices but slightly more generous rations than in the dear old Mother Country. The restricted ration is water. Fishing, I am told, is the best in the world. Fish is brought round daily, all "alive-O" and at a negligible cost. Entertainment is almost nil—apart from one film show a week, years and years old with one projector, so it goes in parts. Very amusing, anyway. Other entertainment consists of cocktail parties, and as most of the small community are world-wide travelled it's amazing what they can put into it. Bathing, in spite of our lovely beaches, is limited to one small cove because of rollers and sharks, and we hike over dust and cinders but thoroughly enjoy it.

Most people possess a car of sorts. I have seen better in the London to Brighton Veterans' Race, but they do their duty nobly. The brightest spot is the mountain—3,000 feet—the only place that

bears vegetation, and after weeks of this hot, dry, barren waste it is just paradise. The road going up is the remains of the Navy dump, and the Navy left in 1922, so it isn't any joyride, but well worth the discomfort for a few hours of Nature's greenery. Animal life is almost nil. A few wild goats and donkeys, lots of sheep, and about ten cows and pigs. The insect life is the bane of my existence; ants, cockroaches, and centipedes. I cannot think of anything more revolting than getting up at the dead of night and finding oneself standing on a cockroach.

I must say that, although we are a small community and live almost a communal life, the folks here are an extraordinarily grand crowd, and one soon learns to appreciate the minor things in life. For once I say thank God for radio, and in spite of our isolation we can receive a cable in two hours from England.

I do hope I have not bored you with my nonsense.

AMELIA FOSTER, A736.

Sports Notes

THERE HAS been no sports news sent in other than the proposed items for the Corps Week. The resourceful Association is filling the gap by sending sports news out, but cannot undertake to rush into the breach in the same way again.

An idea planted some time ago by the Hon. Secretary took root and has now blossomed into a beautiful silver cup—the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association Cup. The Association has bought this cup, which it would like to present annually, possibly at the Reunion, to the best all-round sportswoman of the year among serving Q.A.R.A.N.C. officers or other ranks. That is the idea at present, but the details have to be worked out and may have to be modified. In the meantime, the cup, which in itself stands 10½ in. high and 5½ in. across the top, is to be mounted on a plinth which will bear small silver shields for winners' names.

It is hoped that the cup will be presented for the first time on 7th June, when so many representatives of the donors will be there. More details will be given in the next GAZETTE.

Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Other Rank Training

THIS ARTICLE is an attempt to give more information about the kind of training which the Q.A. other rank receives and, if possible, to dispel the misunderstanding concerning it which is often found among members of the nursing profession or those interested in it. The Corps of necessity must have women O.Rs. in order to carry out its commitments to the Army as constituted today, and a large proportion of those O.Rs. are required for nursing duties.

All Corps training in the Army follows the principle that it should lead, as far as possible, to qualifications recognized in civil life ; hence for those engaged in nursing duties the training provides opportunity to become State Registered Nurses, and like all other nurse training requires the approval of the General Nursing Council. There is no question of encouraging would-be nurses away from their normal channels of training—that is strongly deprecated—but rather to gather in others who would otherwise possibly be lost to nursing.

All training begins at the Depot. It is there the foundations are laid on which the various careers are built throughout other rank service. Accounts from some of the officers responsible for the special parts of the instruction speak for themselves.

GENERAL EDUCATION is an important part of the training. An Education Officer is on the staff and supervises the lessons given by sergeant instructors of the Royal Army Educational Corps in preparation for Army Certificates of Education, which are essential to enthusiastic and ambitious other ranks because they form one of the necessary qualifications for progress and promotion in the Army. The aim at the Depot has been to relate general education to the nursing training, so that the students can realize that the knowledge they gain is of value to them in their everyday tasks within the Army in general and within the Q.A.R.A.N.C. in particular. Thus problems in arithmetic are linked closely with arithmetical calculations they may be required to perform as Q.As., and similarly the instruction in English is given an intensely practical rather than a merely academic bias. In addition, during the course the recruits learn about their Corps and the way in which it is administered, about the various countries in which they may be called upon to serve, and about the development of medical science, hospitals and the nursing profession. The response of the recruits to the education classes has been most gratifying ; the enthusiasm with which they tackle their work and the obvious interest that they have in the lessons, especially those relating to nursing and the Q.A.R.A.N.C., have been an inspiration and encouragement to all those who are responsible for the arrangement and the teaching of the lessons. Before leaving the Depot at

the conclusion of their twelve weeks' course, all recruits take examinations for Army Certificates of Education; the majority take the examination for the Third Class Certificate, but a growing proportion are now sitting for the Second Class Certificate. The scripts for both examinations are invariably of a high standard and bear witness to the interest aroused in the students. Other rank Q.A. staff also attend classes in preparation for Army Certificates of Education.

There is a library for the use of all personnel. It comprises over 500 study books upon a wide range of subjects and obtained through Army sources. In addition there are several hundred books, works of fiction, travel, etc., sent as gifts or collected from time to time.

In conjunction with the other departments and companies concerned, the education department has started several leisure-time activities for personnel within the Depot. Among them there is a music group which, in addition to having weekly recitals of recorded music, arranges parties to attend symphony concerts and recitals in Haslemere and Guildford and a play-reading circle which it is hoped will expand into a full-scale dramatic society. Parties drawn from all sections of the Depot visited the Festival of Britain Exhibition on the South Bank. These activities are an important part of the O.R. training. The education lessons that the recruits receive do form a valuable part of their course and a foundation for further studies during their term of service with the Q.A.R.A.N.C.

THE CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANT is another permanent member of the Depot staff whose daily work and influence cannot be overestimated and who finds no day long enough to fulfil all that comes her way. She tells us: "The Chapel at the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot came into existence to meet a need. Its constant use has more than justified the faith of those who called for its opening. Its situation is almost at the heart of the Camp, strategically placed at the edge of the parade ground next to the cinema and *en route* to the N.A.A.F.I. The first service was taken on 16th December, 1950. It was a celebration of Holy Communion with Mess table to act as the altar. Since then we have managed to get a small altar made for us by the R.Es. of Longmoor Camp. Apart from rugs and chairs issued by the Q.M. stores, everything in the Chapel is either a gift, improvised or borrowed. Every visitor to the Camp comments on the fact that the Chapel, in spite of improvisation, has the atmosphere of being loved, and letters from women now posted to other parts of the country prove this to be true. Each Saturday morning Holy Communion is celebrated, with an attendance which varies between twenty and twenty-five. At that service Q.As. throughout the world are remembered in prayer, one Saturday being given to those on troopships, those in the Far East, and so on. On Tuesday mornings the Roman Catholics have their Mass, and one Sunday in the month, in addition to the usual C. of E. services, the Free Church have a special service followed by Holy Communion, and so all denominations are cared for.

"Every day the Chapel door is opened at 7.30 a.m., and it is used

at any hour for moments of quiet prayer. Evening prayer is said before closing at 9.30 p.m., small groups of women joining in. The Chapel is used, it means something in the life of the Depot community and has borne fruits. The official return at the end of 1951 made for the Church of England Year Book showed total number of confirmations as 77 and communicants as 900.

"We have had two outstanding services when the Church was packed to overflowing—our Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol Services. For the Harvest Festival each part of the Camp brought its offering—vegetables, fruits, flowers, bread and cakes. One unusual offering was a basket of fir cones and logs gleaned from the land round the Camp. During the service a very ancient church ceremony was introduced—at the prayer of general thanksgiving two other ranks, a man and a woman, brought to the altar a bunch of grapes and a small harvest loaf symbolizing the sacramental life of the Church in which is also offered our lives and our work. This Service, like all special services, was planned and compiled by the Church Committee, which is a very live group meeting once a month.

"The Christmas Carol Service, as usual, was exceedingly popular. The impromptu choir toured the Camp before the Service. Christmas Eve there was a well-attended midnight service for those left in Camp.

"Another outstanding event was when the Bishop of Guildford paid his first visit to the Depot a year ago to confirm thirteen O.Rs. The Chapel was decorated with white and red tulips, symbols of the Holy Spirit. The flowers were the gift of officers then in transit at the Depot, and the support given to the candidates by the officers and their own squads was so wonderful that a visiting vicar remarked on the true family spirit which prevailed. The Bishop lunched in the Officers' Mess, and after the Service took tea with the candidates, their parents and friends.

"At first Communion and big festivals the historical Florence Nightingale Communion Set is used with the white and gold burse and veil donated by Mrs. Hey and her daughter, Major A. M. Hey. The beautiful altar cloth was the gift of Major M. M. Winny. The altar service book, hand bound in blue morocco, was given by the Confirmation candidates of 1951.

"Our first year has been crowned by gifts of devotion and service, and we enter our second year feeling that the Chapel is established in the life of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot."

REGIMENTAL TRAINING OF THE Q.A.R.A.N.C. O.R. "is organized in conjunction with the Nurse and Educational Training. Although women joining the Corps are essentially desirous of nursing, they enjoy the regimental side of their lives and derive great benefit from the drill and physical training—the results of which are manifest in healthy appetites and the letting out of skirt bands and tunics prior to posting. The syllabus is wide and varied and is designed to give the recruit a sound basic knowledge of the Army and the Corps itself. Drill commences on the first week and is given practically every day.

It is most satisfying to see the poor, sometimes blistered feet stepping out smartly and enjoying life in quite a short time. Physical Training is also given three times weekly for twenty minute periods—it is a graduated training and gets increasingly difficult as the weeks go by. The women enjoy these two subjects, as they realize it all adds to military bearing and discipline, and strangely enough they like drill for its own sake—which causes amazement to their male instructor. The Corps history is a favourite lecture, and the recruit is always proud to know the traditions which she has inherited. Badges of rank and saluting are also taught at an early stage in order that the recruit may leave the sanctum of the camp without incurring the displeasure of the 'Red Caps.' As the weeks go by the recruit learns all about the sources of clothing and supplies in the Army, and what the prospects are as regards pay and promotion. Lectures are given on Army and hospital organizations, *esprit de corps*, and rights and privileges. At a lecture on the latter subject one of the women asked if she could forgo the privilege of Army education—which caused an uproar in the class, who were studying for their Second and Third Class Certificates. In the third week of training each recruit has to write an essay on their reactions to Army life: many varied opinions are forthcoming, and the general impression is that they speak without fear or favour but are still happy to be with us. A lecture on fire precautions is given, and a film shown called 'Everybody's Business.' This is followed by fire drill—most necessary in a camp like this. For six days during their training the recruits are on fire piquet and learn the intricacies of the trailer fire pump. Two outside lecturers pay us a visit—Miss Heath, who lectures on the popular subject 'The N.A.A.F.I.', and a Provost Sergeant W.R.A.C., who dispels any fear of the Military Police. Films are shown on the care of the teeth and feet—most necessary for the ultimate happiness and comfort of the Trainee Nursing Orderly. These films are instructive as well as amusing and provide light relief from the arduous day's toil. Each Wednesday the Commandant holds a parade, and the standard of turn-out must be perfect. The women take a tremendous pride in being smart on these occasions, and the senior squad 'passing out' always try to be the best. Last, but by no means least, a talk is given on the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association. Nearly all become members before they leave here, and it is hoped that they remember to renew their subscriptions each year.

"From the domestic point of view the recruit learns, from the first day, how to 'spit and polish,' 'barrack' her bed, keep her bed space neat and tidy, and to lay out her kit for inspection. This latter process requires much practice to get a really first-class result. Some recruits get a little anxious at this stage in case the inevitable has happened—they have lost something. One woman sorrowfully confessed during one inspection that she had lost an item of wearing apparel. On being questioned it was discovered, much to the amusement of the whole barrack room, that she was wearing it.

"On the whole, the women undertake these tasks cheerfully and take great pride in their appearance and achievements. A large percentage of them frankly admit that their twelve weeks spent at the Depot have been some of the happiest of their lives."

CAREER PROSPECTS. "Practically all recruits enter the Corps with fixed ideas as to which type of training they wish to undergo, for at the recruiting office they are given full particulars of the careers open to women in the Q.A.R.A.N.C. It is pleasing to find that the great majority wish to train as nurses. Many have had nursing experience of some kind. It is usually the desire to travel which draws them to the Army.

"The first stage of Nurse Training begins in the Preliminary Training School of the Depot during the three months Basic Training. During this stage the subjects taken are the first part of the Anatomy and Physiology Syllabus, Elementary Nursing and Hygiene, and the complete First Aid Syllabus. On completing this course of instruction successfully, these women are posted to military hospitals in the United Kingdom, where they are placed under training for Nursing Orderly, Class III. On completion of this training, twelve months must elapse before they can qualify, by examination, as Nursing Orderly, Class II, and again there must be twelve months' training between Nursing Orderly, Class II, and Nursing Orderly, Class I. The fourth and final year prepares the Nursing Orderly, Class I, candidates for the Army Trained Nurse Certificate (A.F.C. 344). Holders of this certificate are permitted to enter for examinations of the General Nursing Council without further training. State Registration is the goal to which many are striving, and it will mean four years' hard work to accomplish this aim. Reductions in training time are made in certain cases. For instance, candidates who have passed the Preliminary State Examinations, Parts I and II, are graded as N.O., Class III, from the date of enlistment. State Enrolled Assistant Nurses and women with recognized nursing experience are permitted to take the Nursing Orderly, Class III, Examination soon after their arrival at the Depot and, if successful, can also be graded as Nursing Orderly, Class III. This upgrading reduces the total length of Army training time to three years.

"There are many other interesting careers open to those who do not wish to take nursing training. The School of Radiography at Woolwich is already training some very keen Q.A.R.A.N.C. students, who hope on completion of their three years' radiography training to prepare for the civil examinations and become members of the Society of Radiographers during their Army careers. The course for Laboratory Assistants for Q.A.R.A.N.C. Other Ranks is carried out at the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, and again, on completion of training, these students hope to qualify as Associates of The Institute of Medical and Laboratory Technicians. Another very interesting trade in the Corps is physiotherapy, and the course for this is carried out at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley. This course is spread

over three years, and successful candidates qualify as Physiotherapists, Class I. If candidates wish to qualify as Members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, they must take a further eighteen months' training at a civil training school. Some Q.A. other ranks—several of whom have already had valuable clerical experience in civil life—are taking the course for Clinical Clerk at the R.A.M.C. Depot at Crookham. A trade which is still little known to women, but which should become increasingly popular, is that of Technical Storewoman. Training takes place at the Army Medical Equipment Depot at Ludgershall, where candidates are trained in all branches of handling of medical equipment and its despatch to all parts of the world. Closely allied to the trades of the Medical and Nursing Corps is the Dental Clerk Assistant. This is an important branch and a type of work eminently suited to women. Initial training is carried out at Royal Army Dental Corps Depot, Aldershot, and the training for Dental Clerk Assistant, Class I, is also spread over three years. From candidates studying for Dental Clerk Assistant certain candidates are selected for further specialized training as Dental Hygienists."

The foregoing accounts tell their own tale. These are early days to predict success, but the results so far of Q.A. other rank training have been encouraging. Nursing and these varied Army trades can cater for all types and standards of recruits entering the Corps. The Corps has great faith in its nurse training. It believes that the Army can and will produce good nurses. There are many difficulties to overcome, particularly after the basic training, when the O.Rs. are posted from the Depot to the hospitals. Here the needs of their training are not the only claims to be considered, but must be reconciled to and made part of all the many responsibilities, including the training of National Service men, in busy military hospitals usually short of sisters. All those who take part in this great scheme—ward sisters, tutors, administrative staff—do require courage, vision, sympathy and a resolute determination to make it a success. Many of them are in the Army for a few years only, and the difficulties encountered might well tax their loyalty and desire to give of their best during that period of service. The future is, none the less, faced with quiet confidence by those to whom the Corps is their career. They hope that the training provided in all branches will produce able and useful women, ready to play their part as nurses or others in the Army Medical Services and as good citizens of the world.

Annual General Meetings

(i) The Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, 29th March, 1952, at 2.30 p.m. at 20, John Islip Street, Millbank, London, S.W.1. Kindly assist arrangements to be made by notifying the Hon. Secretary of your intention to be present. Copy of agenda will then be forwarded to you.

(ii) Queen Mary's House Fund Annual General Meeting was notified for 18th January, but had to be cancelled. It will now be held on Tuesday, 18th March, 1952, at the War Office, Room 439, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Will members of this fund kindly notify the Hon. Secretary, Q.M.H. Fund, at 20, John Islip Street, Millbank, London, S.W.1, of their intention to be present. Agenda has been circulated.

News from the Branches

East African Branch

A Dinner Dance was held on 15th December in the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Officers' Mess, Nairobi, by the kind permission of the officers, which enabled us to price the tickets at 10s. each. The Catering Corps undertook the catering, which was most ably done, and the catering adviser was a tremendous help when it came to the question of hiring glass, cutlery and waiters! Every other mess did what they could to save us expense; the R.A.M.C. officers lent us their radiogram.

The evening started at 7.30, when cocktails were served in the ante-room, and people soon got together, as a large portion were Nairobi residents. Ten serving officers should have been there, but unfortunately three were detained very much "on duty." We sat down forty-two to dinner, and we had the tables arranged three sides of a square with guests both sides of the tables. With borrowed waiters and two volunteer R.A.M.C., none of whom understood the job of wine waiter, there were many anxious moments, but the fact that the port was put on the table three times during dinner and at a frantic signal was whisked off again added only to the merriment. The Chairman proposed the health of the King. Brigadier Spencer Cox made a neat little speech proposing the health of Lieut.-Colonel Rose and Lieut.-Colonel N. Bampton. Colonel Gross proposed the Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Dancing to the radiogram went on till after midnight, and everyone seemed to have enjoyed the evening. Any surplus drink that was left was sold by auction. The biggest expense was the breakages, which perhaps was to be expected, as the African soldier is not accustomed to handle delicate wine glasses with the care that they need.

Our menu was lobster cream cocktail, then roast duck, green peas, game chips and sauce Espagnol, sherry and red wine, followed by strawberry fool and ice cream, coffee and dessert.

Midland Branch

The Chairman, Miss Gannon, was able to attend the January Central Committee Meeting at Headquarters. She reported a very successful sale of work organized to produce money for Christmas gifts. It was well patronized, and teas were provided as a gift to the Branch. The meetings are held in different places, usually a member's house, to make it easy for members to attend at least some of the meetings. Old and sick members are visited, and altogether the Branch feels that they have had a satisfactory year and are carrying out the aims of the Association.

Scottish Branch

Miss Roy has relinquished the Chairman's duties, which have been taken over by Miss A. G. Murrie, who was elected at the Branch Annual General Meeting in January. This will take the seat of Branch administration from Glasgow to Edinburgh and may prove a useful incentive in creating further interest. There is always friendly rivalry between Glasgow and Edinburgh. A whist drive and tea followed the Annual General Meeting, and Glasgow is maintaining its monthly tea parties. The membership now stands at 155.

New Zealand

Mrs. Hatfield, the Secretary, writes: "We have had a notice about our Branch sent to the *Kai-Taiki*, the New Zealand nursing journal, in hopes of contacting other eligible nurses.

"On 19th November five of our members were privileged to entertain Miss A. Hart and her sister to afternoon tea as they passed through Auckland, and were sorry they would not be able to attend our first annual dinner which we held on 29th November at the Trans Tasman Hotel, Auckland. The guests were received by the Chairman, Miss R. M. Cliffe, Mrs. C. A. Webster and Mrs. Hatfield. The guest of honour was Miss C. Cherry, President of the New Zealand Returned Army Nursing Sisters' Association, Auckland Branch. Also present were two English Air Force Sisters and one British Naval Sister. The toasts were proposed to the King (Miss M. C. Thompson), the Association (Miss L. M. Cliffe), Absent Friends (Mrs. R. O. Wolfgram), the Guests (Mrs. C. F. Webster). The table was beautifully decorated with red, white and blue flowers, and the Union Jack was suspended from the wall behind the Chairman. Later the guests adjourned to the lounge for a friendly chat. A flashlight photo was taken of the members present, which I will send on in case it is of interest to anyone at home. Our Branch would like to wish the Home Association the compliments of the season and every success in its 1952 undertakings."

Postings From and Reversions to Home Establishment, October to December, 1951

To B.A.O.R.

Major H. Heafey
Major M. I. Newbury
Captain C. Moseley
Captain B. J. Rattee
Lieut. J. M. Blunt
Lieut. G. Harty
Lieut. M. C. Heyworth
Lieut. J. M. Jones
Lieut. J. Kilby
Lieut. M. T. Liston
Lieut. B. Lithgow
Lieut. J. M. Lyons
Lieut. E. Mills
Lieut. V. Wells
Lieut. O. V. Ogden
Lieut. M. S. Singleton
Lieut. C. Drummy

To West Africa

Major M. E. Holmes

To BETFOR

Lieut. E. E. Andrews
Lieut. G. B. K. Cunningham

To Japan

Captain V. M. Innes
Captain A. M. McCormick
Lieut. C. M. Gould
Lieut. J. Melvin

To East Africa

Lieut.-Colonel Rose
Captain G. Thomas
Captain E. Wadmore
Lieut. B. R. Edwards
Lieut. Gillies-Reyburn
Lieut. M. E. Holliday
Lieut. M. M. Holt
Lieut. J. L. Mist
Lieut. T. A. O'Neal
Lieut. D. E. Warren

To B.T.A.

Captain K. M. Cross
Lieut. E. S. Hartley
Lieut. J. Kitchen

To Gibraltar

Captain R. Pugsley
Lieut. E. J. T. Buckley

To Malta

Lieut. V. G. Marchand
Lieut. J. K. Smith
Lieut. H. M. Tevendale

To MELF

Captain M. I. Campbell
Captain H. Walsh
Lieut. T. G. Battye
Lieut. A. Bennett
Lieut. N. Fleming
Lieut. K. L. Green
Lieut. M. E. Hart
Lieut. M. H. Jolliffe
Lieut. I. Spruce
Lieut. J. Stevens
Lieut. C. M. Stewart
Lieut. E. T. Turnock
Lieut. K. Twohig

To FARELF

Captain E. B. Connor
Captain L. M. Egan
Captain M. Fraser
Captain E. M. Hewson
Captain E. Jobson
Captain A. E. Leinster
Captain A. R. Owen
Lieut. T. M. Adams
Lieut. O. Bradley
Lieut. M. Clark
Lieut. I. S. Claig
Lieut. M. A. Culshaw
Lieut. A. Donaldson
Lieut. M. T. Evans
Lieut. E. M. Farrow
Lieut. C. M. FitzGerald
Lieut. M. Flynn
Lieut. K. E. Fox
Lieut. M. Hennessy
Lieut. J. A. McCash
Lieut. J. M. Morgan
Lieut. M. M. O'Farrell
Lieut. A. T. O'Flynn
Lieut. M. O'Malley
Lieut. M. M. Patmore
Lieut. A. A. Porter
Lieut. M. C. Reid
Lieut. M. Royle
Lieut. O. M. Stevens
Lieut. E. A. Taylor
Lieut. T. I. Wears

Lieut. A. Wildman
Lieut. M. Woods
Lieut. M. Whitworth

From FARELF

Lieut.-Colonel E. D. Maultby
Major E. F. W. M. Jolly
Major W. D. McCracken
Major E. V. Wallace
Captain M. M. Bruce
Captain H. Dodsley
Captain D. F. Duckworth
Captain F. M. Marsh
Captain M. W. McConnell
Captain E. M. B. Murphy
Captain M. Pratt
Lieut. M. M. Agius
Lieut. E. Dolan
Lieut. J. Y. Harrison
Lieut. R. E. Jackson
Lieut. M. Lewis
Lieut. B. Morgan
Lieut. W. Varnell
Lieut. B. J. Wright

From MELF

Major M. A. G. Cameron
Major F. B. Cozens
Captain A. W. Dickie
Captain K. Grimshaw
Captain U. K. Jones
Captain E. M. Scott
Lieut. D. L. Butters
Lieut. M. L. Giles
Lieut. D. G. Kelly
Lieut. D. M. MacMahon
Lieut. A. E. Reynolds

From West Africa

Lieut.-Colonel M. Badgley

From East Africa

Captain M. Fort
Captain E. M. Hancock
Captain E. Keelan
Captain O. M. Marchant
Captain M. K. Winston
Lieut. K. Kerr
Lieut. J. M. H. Reed
Lieut. M. Waddington

Promotions

1950

14th February: Captain to Major—G. M. Hogg, A.R.R.C.
8th August: Lieut. to Captain—J. M. McDonnell.

1951

March: Captain to Major—J. Carson, 7th. Lieut. to Captain—E. Swinburne, 5th; M. M. Berry, 18th; T. A. Ayriss, 24th; M. N. Lynch, 18th; N. W. McConnell, 22nd; M. Daly, 20th; J. Godtschaik, 17th.

April: Captain to Major—P. C. Stewart, 4th; F. V. Hynes, 15th. Major to Lieut.-Colonel—D. O. Wakeham, R.R.C., 16th. Lieut. to Captain—M. S. Stewart, 1st; W. H. Huss, 6th; E. M. Care, 8th; M. C. McGlinchey, 27th.

May: Lieut. to Captain—P. L. N. Walker, 12th; P. J. Smith, 12th; H. E. Jenkins, 20th; C. W. A. Fawcett, 29th.

June: To Lieut.-Colonel—Major (temp. Lieut.-Colonel) E. J. Stirling, R.R.C., 30th. Lieut. to Captain—N. G. Cannon, 3rd; P. D. Downing, 6th; M. Mundy, 9th; M. V. Duell, 9th.

July: Major to Lieut.-Colonel—M. L. Hallows, R.R.C., 1st.

Lieut. to Captain—K. L. Wortley, 11th; G. Thomas, 5th; J. J. Milton, 6th.

August: To be Lieut.-Colonel—Temp. Lieut.-Colonel M. Hobbs, R.R.C., 19th; Major J. Drennan, A.R.R.C., 26th. Captain to Major—E. Roberts, M.B.E., 9th; E. F. Peritt, 14th. Lieut. to Captain—J. C. Thomas, 5th; E. E. Williams; E. C. Bingham, 11th; P. M. Beard, 14th; L. Hanlon, 19th; M. Hill, 14th.

September: Captain to Major—A. V. Fenton, S. C. Burnett, 1st; G. E. Thompson, A.R.R.C., E. K. Wood, 2nd; J. E. Hamilton, V. K. Turner, 4th; W. Delaney, E. Taylor, M. M. Trood, 8th; M. J. McMahan, 9th; V. A. M. H. Morgan, 10th; M. K. Daly, W. D. McCracken, 19th; M. P. A. Albrecht, A.R.R.C., 20th; E. Rosemont, 21st; M. A. G. Cameron, A.R.R.C., 30th. Lieut. to Captain—P. A. Tibbs, 29th; R. Walton, 14th; N. Dentith, 26th.

October: Captain to Major—D. L. Francis, 4th; K. M. Roberts, A.R.R.C., 11th; D. F. Duckworth, 16th; E. Ballesty, 19th; M. J. Scannell, 29th; B. M. Gordon, 31st. Lieut. to Captain—M. Wall, 2nd; I. M. Bock, 14th; D. M. Eldridge, 9th.

November: To be Lieut.-Colonel—Major (temp. Lieut.-Colonel) E. M. Summerville, A.R.R.C., 23rd. Captain to Major—J. M. S. Wilson, 17th; C. P. Maudsley, A.R.R.C., 26th. Lieut. to Captain—V. B. Foulger, 11th; J. E. M. Godfrey, 7th.

December: Captain to Major—H. F. E. Payton, 1st; V. M. Innes, O.B.E., 11th; E. Thorpe, 27th; E. E. M. Saunders, 28th. Lieut. to Captain—F. McLean, 10th; E. Thomson, 18th.

1952

January: Major to Lieut.-Colonel—E. Mackaness, A.R.R.C., 9th. Captain to Major—E. Longworth, 12th; M. Noonan, 14th; D. F. Austin, 18th; B. M. Robertson, A.R.R.C., 20th. Lieut. to Captain—B. Morgan, 14th; V. Lithgow, 24th.

* * * * *

THE WAR OFFICE announces the appointment of Colonel H. S. Gillespie, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, to be Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services, War Office, in succession to Brigadier Dame Anne Thompson, who will retire in July, on completion of the tenure of her appointment. Colonel Gillespie is at present Commandant of Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot and Training Establishment.

We all offer Colonel Gillespie our congratulations and good wishes.

Retirements and Resignations

1951

June: Lieuts. E. M. Davies (*née* Ungoed), J. P. Buckley (*née* Summers), J. Thomas (*née* Lathan).

July: Lieuts. P. L. G. Crofts, M. Jones, C. Payne (*née* Lynch), E. M. F. Gilliat (*née* Ritchie).

August: Lieuts. E. S. Boughen, S. M. Newton, W. A. Newbrook, E. Trotter, J. Townsend, E. I. Jones, E. L. Perry, A. K. Evans, E. D. Smith, M. Arnold, M. R. Parry, J. M. Laidman, B. M. Aitchinson (*née* Raymond), H. M. Griffiths, B. Tayler (*née* Davies). Captains T. A. Leitch (*née* Ayriss), E. C. K. Jones (*née* Blogg), I. Rayner (*née* Lawley). Lieut.-Colonel F. M. Lowther.

September: Lieuts. G. P. M. Foley (*née* Hannon), M. M. Flood (*née* Leahy), M. Care, D. F. Gill (*née* Wood), P. C. M. Carter, M. Dixon, F. W. Messiter, D. C. A. Andrews, M. D. Bradley, A. J. Kavanagh, M. W. Shanks (*née* Lorrimer), M. B. Brennan. Captains D. E. H. Taylor, G. M. Davies. Major G. Carruthers.

October: Lieuts. M. J. Hooper, J. M. Marriott, C. G. Parkhouse (*née* McMullen-Pearson), M. B. Brown, A. N. Vann (*née* Stirling), M. Mackenzie, J. O. Reed (*née* Field), O. Burnham. Captains M. M. Church, M.B.E., M. K. McClintock, J. L. S. Montgomerie.

November: Lieuts. A. Matheson, G. L. Valentyne, A. Bruce (*née* Sloan), A. Roberts, L. M. P. Speke, K. M. Nolan, D. P. Hill, E. J. Christian, J. Mann (*née* Redstone). Captains A. Fish (*née* James), D. I. French. Lieut.-Colonel M. L. Hallowes, R.R.C.

December: Lieuts. V. F. M. Mayne (*née* Hanford), E. S. E. Hanks (*née* Roulstone), B. T. Alpin (*née* Small), M. Court, M. P. Fulling (*née* McCallum), E. M. Johnson (*née* Edmond), M. R. Plant (*née* Newark), J. F. Dilleigh (*née* Moore), D. H. Hoare (*née* Wood), J. F. Ritchie (*née* Johnson). Captain M. J. Jung (*née* Lewis). Major C. J. J. Jones, A.R.R.C.

1952

January: Lieuts. M. Ford, W. J. Gilroy, F. Ingram, J. Littlefield, J. Faulkner. Captain E. J. Tooby. Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Harris, M.B.E., R.R.C.

Friends, Please Note

Marriages

- PLANT-NEWARK.—On 22nd December, 1951, at Leytonstone, Captain Oliver Plant to Marion Ruth Newark, Lieutenant, Q.A.R.A.N.C.
- POWELL-GRAYSON.—On 5th January, 1952, quietly at Lymington, Hants, Dr. Stanley Powell to Joy Francis Grayson, Lieutenant, Q.A.R.A.N.C.
- HOLLOWAY-McGILRAY.—On 10th November, 1951, in London, Mr. H. Holloway to Sally McGilray (Q.A. Reserve).
- WATSON-FORBES.—On 15th September, 1951, James Watson to Pte. L. Forbes.
- PEARCE-BEATON.—On 29th September, 1951, Hayden James Pearce to Pte. A. Beaton.
- DUCKWORTH-VARLEY.—On 26th October, 1951, J. Duckworth to Pte. B. Varley.
- JACKSON-BRYAN.—On 31st October, 1951, N. W. Jackson to Pte. A. Bryan.
- McDONALD-STARK.—On 27th October, 1951, Walter McDonald to Pte. J. Stark.
- HAMILTON-McCALLUM.—On 17th November, 1951, John Francis Hamilton to Cpl. I. McCallum.
- MARSHALL-SMITH.—On 17th November, 1951, Raymond Henry Marshall to Cpl. J. Smith.
- BANT-WRIGLEY.—On 10th November, 1951, Joseph Thomas Bant to Pte. V. Wrigley.
- NEWTON-HOPKINS.—On 17th November, 1951, Jack Newton to Pte. P. Hopkins.
- McKILLOP-PAYNE.—On 17th November, P. A. McKillop to Pte. E. Payne.
- HUDSON-EDGE.—On 22nd November, 1951, Peter George Hudson to Pte. J. Edge.

Births

- GRIFFITHS.—To Christina (*née* Hardy), ex-Q.A.I.M.N.S./R., wife of Robert J. B. Griffiths, at Hope Hospital, Salford, Lancs, on 12th October, 1951—a daughter.
- MARSHALL.—At New Plymouth, New Zealand, on 21st September, 1951, to Winifred P. (*née* Robson), ex-Q.A.I.M.N.S./R., and John W. Marshall (ex-N.Z.R.A.F.)—a son, David John, a brother for Suzanne.

Deaths

We regretfully announce the following deaths :

- OXLEY.—On Friday, 30th November, 1951, Sophia Elizabeth Oxley (Q.A.I.M.N.S.), of Gulahek, Seaton, Devon.
- McPHERSON.—On 31st December, 1951, at the Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, Emily May McPherson (Q.A.I.M.N.S., retired), A2576.
- FAIRLAND.—On 9th August, 1951, Gladys Fairland, of Windlesham, Horley, Surrey, A495.
- AYRE.—On Tuesday, 18th December, 1951, at the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe, Miss Amelia Ayre (Q.A.I.M.N.S., retired), A202.
- OWEN.—On Friday, 11th January, at Margate Hospital, Miss Lena May Owen (Q.A.I.M.N.S./R.), L372.
- CUNNINGHAM.—On Thursday, 6th December, 1951, at 22A, Clevedon Road, Glasgow, W.2, Annie I. H. Cunningham.
- LANGLANDS.—Recently at Blairgowrie, Scotland, Miss Mary W. Langlands, R.R.C., T.A.N.S.
- WINDLEY.—On 12th December, at her home at Wingham, near Canterbury, Miss Dorothy Windley.

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