



The Gazette



SEASONAL GREETINGS

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Association

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

Patron

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS MARGARET, C.I., G.C.V.O.,
COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

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Director Army Nursing Service

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GAZETTE Readers'

Representative: MRS. D. M. HAMMOND, ex-T.A.N.S.

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EDITORIAL

The end of another year and there must have been many changes in several spheres of life, including the Association. Colonel Rose having retired as Honorary General Secretary we are most fortunate and needless to say delighted that the Central Committee have elected her as Vice-President in accordance with the agreed proposal at the Annual General Meeting that we should appoint a Vice-President to whom Committee members could appeal for advice and guidance. No one could fill this position more ably, with her tact and background knowledge of the Association, coupled with her wisdom. We hope to see her at as many meetings as she can possibly attend.

Quite a number of annual members have been transferred to R.A.R.O. or retired on marriage during the past few months. Unfortunately so many allow their membership of the Association to lapse. Give serious thought to this, please, ladies. We will miss you and we feel sure you will not want to lose complete contact with your old colleagues and the Association does help you to keep this up. Secretaries, do your best too to encourage new members of the Corps to join the Association. Life Membership would solve the problem of forgetting annual renewal.

Our most sincere sympathy, we send to Mrs. Joyce Hamilton, our Assistant Editor, in her recent sad bereavement and hope that she will find some comfort from the fact that our thoughts are and have been with her during this anxious time. We greatly miss her valuable assistance but look forward to seeing her in our midst in the near future.

Our congratulations to all who have been successful in examinations and courses and we wish all our members a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous 1970.

CHAIRMAN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

DEAR MEMBERS,

Christmas is coming with all the bustle and rush this brings to many, the excitement of children, and the lift of the heart, to all who remember its real significance.

To some, tinged with sadness because this year, a dear one is not at their side, to others, touched with regret, that they can no longer hurry around, but must sit and watch.

To you all I wish, in its true sense, a Happy Christmas, for "Unto us a Child is born", and this is the beginning of all hope and joy, to young and old, reborn each year.

To all our friends, but especially to those overseas, who cannot receive this message until then, and with a particular thought for those I was privileged to visit last year in Australia and New Zealand,

A hopeful and joyous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

E. FREDA DAVIES.

PICTURE ON THE COVER

The picture on the cover is of a Corps Christmas Card in 1955 designed and painted by the late Major Rene Welch. She designed many of the Corps Christmas Cards and these are retained in the Museum, at the Training Centre, Aldershot along with framed paintings of Corps uniforms through the years.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

At the Dedication Ceremony of the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on the 6th November 1969, many members of the Association, both serving and retired, attended. Her Majesty, the Queen Mother was present and after the Ceremony visited the plots. She stopped and spoke to Brigadier Barbara Gordon and several Association members and remarked how nice it was to see such a good representation of the Nursing Services present.

Miss D. C. Bridges, one of our Vice Patrons, conducted the brief service at our plot and the crosses were laid by Major V. Rooke for Q.A.I.M.N.S., Miss E. Baldock for the Reserves, Lt. Colonel H. Fletcher T.A./A.V.R. for the T.A.N.S. and Mrs. Prior for the V.A.D's.

FROM MRS. MILLS

I would like to thank the many people who either wrote to me or enquired about me when I was in Hospital; they were so numerous that it was impossible to write to everyone. I very much appreciated it and feel it was almost worth while being ill to find how many friends I had. I am now back at Haig House after a holiday in Spain.

Queen Mary's House Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale was most successful and enjoyable. Although the attendance was not quite as large as previous years due to weather and the clash with other functions, the final amount realised was £130. A wonderful effort and a very satisfying reward for all the hard work of the residents and friends.

HEADQUARTERS MESS

As you must all be aware from the National Press, the future of QAMH Millbank and therefore of the QARANC Officers Mess is under active consideration by the Government. There is a very strong probability that they will in a matter of years no longer be sited adjacent to the Tate Gallery.

For this reason it seemed timely to put into effect the suggestions which have been made in the past—namely that we move our Headquarter Mess to the site of our Regimental Headquarters now sited we hope permanently in Aldershot.

Apart from overnight accommodation it has for some time proved impossible for administrative and accommodation reasons, to entertain and offer hospitality as we should like in the Mess at John Islip Street.

At the Annual General Meeting in June, of the Headquarters Mess it was agreed that the Mess should be moved to the Royal Pavilion Aldershot with effect from 1st January 1970.

It is hoped to hold Regimental Corps Dinners in the Officers Mess, entertaining both friends of the Corps and Service Officers on retirement. Our Tennis and Sports festivities will as usual be held during the summer at the Training Centre giving us the opportunity to offer hospitality as a Corps. It is hoped that both retired and serving members of the Corps will join us on these and any other occasions taking every opportunity to use the facilities of the Headquarters Mess, to get to know our Regimental Headquarters and last but not least, our Corps Museums, all sited at the Royal Pavilion. We are very anxious

that Officers and Junior Ranks after they leave the Corps will keep in touch by these visits. In all probability the H.Q. Corps Cocktail Party will continue to be held in London but this naturally will depend on the wishes of the Corps.

Overnight accommodation will be available by writing to the PMC or the Secretary and those of us who have seen the Training Centre in Spring, Summer or early Autumn can vouch for the fact that it is a perfect place to spend a quiet few days.

It will still be possible to offer overnight accommodation, if it is available, in London at the QARANC Officers Mess, John Islip Street, for as long as it remains on its present site.

B. M. GORDON,
Matron-in-Chief.

NOTICES

Christmas Parcels are still being packed if anyone wishes to contribute either gifts or cash, please forward these to Hon. Friends Secretary, Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association, Haig House, 26 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

* * *

The Annual Reunion will be held on Saturday, 20th June, 1970 at the Cafe Royal, Regent Street, London, W.1. and as far as is known the cost will remain unchanged i.e. 15/- for members and guests. Non-members eligible to join the Association 17/6.

Q.A.R.A.N.C. OFFICERS ANNUAL RECEPTION

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Margaret honoured the Officers of the Corps with her presence at their Annual Reception at the Royal Hospital Chelsea on the 23rd October, 1969.

The Lady Juliet Smith was in attendance.

On her arrival, Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, was met by the Colonel Commandant, Dame Margot Turner and the Director, Army Nursing Services, Brigadier Barbara Gordon. On entering the Governor's Apartment she was presented with a bouquet of small, dainty, pastel shaded flowers by Lieutenant Sylvester.

Her Royal Highness wore an apple green silk dress trimmed with silver, cut in the A line. Her shoes, with buckles, were also of apple green.

She appeared to be fully recovered from a feverish cold, which many had feared might have prevented her from attending. Her Royal Highness circulated amongst the officers and guests. Many were presented to her.

Lieutenant Sylvester trained in the Corps and is a newly commissioned officer.

The Headquarters of the Association was represented by the Honorary General Secretary, Colonel Priscilla Stewart, and by the Honorary Friends Secretary, Mrs. E. H. Mills. Friends were glad to see Mrs. Mills recovered from her illness.

In an adjacent room the Band of the Royal Army Medical Corps was playing a musical programme.

This was an enjoyable and memorable evening for all those fortunate enough to be present.

NEWS FROM BRANCHES

Welsh Branch

A meeting and social evening was held in the Officers Mess 203(W) General Hospital (RAMC) on July 17th.

Complimentary tickets for the Dress Rehearsal of the Cardiff Investiture Year Tattoo were available. Three tickets were sent to members of the West Country Branch of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association.

The Tattoo was most enjoyable.

It was decided to arrange a Theatre evening on Thursday, October 2nd.

It so happened this was during the Welsh National Opera Season. Two members of the West Country also attended and enjoyed the evening.

Mrs. Bond took a bouquet to Miss Lewis of 4 Alexandra Court, Lansbury Park, Caerphilly on the occasion of her seventy sixth birthday.

The next meeting of the Welsh Branch will be a Luncheon Meeting on December 6th but the place has not yet been decided.

A. M. BARNETT.

West Country Branch

We celebrated our first Birthday with an excellent Buffet luncheon at Pratt's Hotel, Bath on October 4th, 1969.

Twenty-two members and a few guests were present, nineteen members being regrettably unable to attend.

Two new members were welcomed into the fold and were soon at ease in the informal atmosphere.

A most enjoyable two hours passed all too quickly and everyone left resolved to do more to strengthen our Branch, both financially and by increasing our Membership, in spite of our Area being so scattered.

KENT BRANCH

Given a perfect day, a most attractive private drawing room in a Canterbury Hotel and a goodly gathering of members from various parts of Kent and one has all the ingredients necessary for a successful and happy meeting. Thus it was when the Kent Branch met on

September 25th for the A.G.M. Twenty-five members attended and it was specially nice to have Miss Baker from the West of England Branch as a guest. Dame Barbara Cozens took the chair and welcomed us all and the five new members, however she has resigned from that office. We shall still have the pleasure of her company and her wise advice which has been a great factor in getting the branch so firmly on its feet. Our new Chairman is Lt.-Col: Ruth Davies and Mrs. Anna Sharwood has taken over the Secretaryship from Major D. Austin. To our great joy Mrs. Claire Heywood remains in charge of our finances—she must be unique insofar as she actually likes keeping the books ! !

Business disposed of we discussed lighter matters—e.g. a Christmas luncheon at the Hotel Metropole Folkestone in early December and a Bring and Buy Sale in the spring but tongues were really loosened with the advent of a delicious and ample tea and we enjoyed picking up the threads left from our last get-together before we dispersed on our various ways.

M.P.M.

Bournemouth

Members are particularly fortunate in their connections with talented people.

This time Mrs. Kathleen Blenkinsop was instrumental in introducing Mrs. Neil Munro. (Their children went to school together).

Ann Blyth Munro is Chairman of Womans Press Club of London and feature editor of "Woman", the magazine which enjoys the largest circulation in the world.

Decorative to look at in her emerald green outfit from top to toe, her speech sparkled like champagne. To an audience comprised predominantly of women, merely to gaze at the details of her ensemble would have been entertainment enough, yet every sentence was a gem.



ANNUAL LUNCH BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH

Col. H. Thayer Mrs. K. Tye Dame Monica Golding Lt.-Col. K. Duncan
Col. W. Dowling Lt.-Col. M. Hey Maj. M. McMahon

From the moment of taking her typewriter into Boscombe Hospital when she was expecting the birth of her first child and tapped out chapters of a romantic novel between labour-pains, the pace of her speech was jet propelled, through six children and voluminous expansion in her writing as well; bringing us bang up-to-date with the present day when some of those children are married and others taking degrees in various professions.

A word too, for the kind and appreciative husband waiting in the wings. On her return from a marathon session, reviewing Petula Clark's mansion in Geneva for a future issue of "Woman", to tell her of some minor domestic crisis—the cat was sick. One imagines she dealt with that CATastrophe in the same competent manner that characterised her entire life.

Referring to her six children, one reader enquired whether she was "Catholic or careless."!

Other personalities whose interior decorations she has described include Simon Dee, Derek Nimmo and Tom Jones. From each encounter she related some witty anecdote.

If ever she finds time to write her autobiography, the book should be on every woman's library list.

In conclusion

A vote of thanks was proposed by Kit Hinds and seconded by general acclaim.

Visitors to the Luncheon included Colonels Thayer and Boad from Aldershot, Lt.-Col. Duncan and Miss Reynolds from Netley, Mr. and Mrs. Wise (nee Ann Jones) from Southampton.

Some magnificent floral arrangements for the table were brought by Rev. and Mrs. Herbert.

Dame Monica graced the Chair and introduced a new member, Mrs. Wilkinson and conveyed Victoria Whiteman's regret at her inability to attend.

Colonel Dowling arranged the Luncheon which was held as usual at Linden Hall. Joyce Chambers ran a successful Raffle. The attendance was excellent and the next social function will be Tea on December, 3rd.

K. A. TYE.

INTER-SERVICES TENNIS TOURNAMENT

18th July, 1969

This year it was the turn of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. to be the host Unit for the Inter-Services Tennis Tournament on the 18th July, 1969.

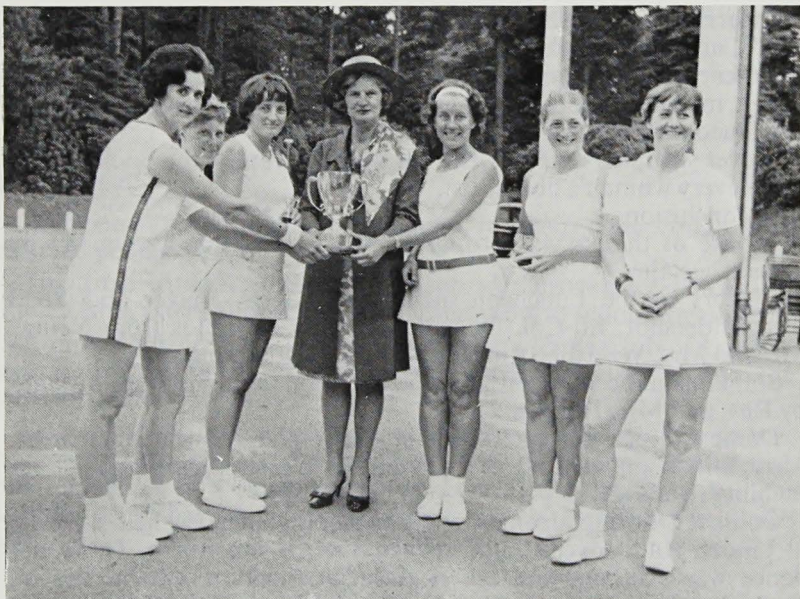
The day dawned bright and sunny and fortunately remained so.

This year a singles match was introduced and appeared to be very popular. The tournament started with a singles match between the R.A.F. and Q.A.R.N.N.S. and a doubles match between the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and P.M.R.A.F.N.S. The result being a win for the Q.A.R.N.N.S. in the singles and the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. in the doubles.

Play continued with a doubles match between the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. and the Q.A.R.N.N.S. and a singles match between the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and the Q.A.R.N.N.S.—the result being a win for the Q.A.R.A.N.C. in the singles and for the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. in the doubles.

At this stage players and visitors adjourned to the Officers' Mess for a "Strawberry Tea".

Play commenced again with the singles match between the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. and a doubles between the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and the Q.A.R.N.N.S.—the result being a win for the Q.A.R.A.N.C. in both matches. This brought the result to an overall win in the singles for the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and a tie between the Q.A.R.A.N.C. and P.M.R.A.F.N.S. for the doubles.



Brigadier B. M. Gordon with the doubles teams :
Q.A.R.A.N.C., P.M.R.A.F.N.S. and Q.A.R.N.N.S.

The Cup is to be shared, 6 months P.M.R.A.F.N.S. and 6 months Q.A.R.A.N.C. A commendable standard of play was shown by all three Services.

Our Director Brigadier B. M. Gordon, R.R.C., Q.H.N.S. presented the Cups, and in her speech thanked the Commandant and all the Staff at the Training Centre for helping to make such an enjoyable day.

We had the services of three excellent umpires, Colonel M. Reynolds (Rtd.) O.B.E., R.E., W.O. K. I Kitchen, WRAC and Sgt. Torrens RAPC. Ball girls were from the Basic Training Wing and linesmen from the Permanent Staff at the Training Centre.

We at the Training Centre were honoured by the presence of the Matron-in-Chief of the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. Air Commodore Dame Pauline Giles, D.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., the Matron-in-Chief of the Q.A.R.N.N.S. Miss Featherston-Dilke, C.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., also present was our own D.G.A.M.S. Lt. General Sir Norman Talbot and Lady Talbot, Air Marshal Sir George and Lady Gunn, D.G.M.S. (R.A.F.), Surgeon Vice-Admiral and Mrs. E. B. Bradbury, M.D.G. (N).

Competitors Names

- Q.A.R.A.N.C. *Doubles:* Capt. B. A. Fennell, Lieut. M. W. M. Reakes. *Singles:* Lieut. I. L. Hederman.
- P.M.R.A.F.N.S. *Doubles:* Flt. Offr. E. Weyman, Flt. Offr. E. C. Woolley. *Singles:* Flt. Offr. M. B. Pirrie.
- Q.A.R.N.N.S. *Doubles:* Mrs. J. Reynolds, Mrs. S. E. Kearney. *Singles:* Miss S. F. Murray.

A MEMORABLE DAY

May 15th, 1969 was quite a celebration day for many nurses throughout England and Wales as it was the date chosen to commemorate the Jubilee Year of the General Nursing Council. Combined with this event, in the evening, was the gathering together of some 2,000 nurses to rejoice together in Westminster Abbey, in remembrance of Florence Nightingale.

I was delighted to have the opportunity to represent the Q.A.R.A.N.C. at both of these events which I will be able to look back on for many years.

For me, the day began early and on arrival at No. 23 Portland Place—The Headquarters of the General Nursing Council, I was most interested to encounter many other student and pupil nurses, some of whom had travelled from far afield places such as the Channel Islands and North Wales for the occasion.

Eventually 150 of us were ushered into the main hall of the councils offices to wait for the arrival of the Registrar, Miss Henry, who has to talk to us and explain the general events of the day.

Meanwhile we all had the opportunity of becoming acquainted and were able to meet and talk to others.

It was fascinating to note that many nations had been represented in fact and several nurses were wearing their national costumes to add to the colourful scene.

Members of the Council mingled with us and were helpful and informal which made us feel most welcome and put us all at our ease.

On completion of Miss Henry's talk, it was decided that a ballot should be drawn to choose twelve students and pupil nurses to have tea with H.R.H. Princess Margaret, the Guest of Honour. It must have been my lucky day as my name was the first to be selected.

In the meantime we were to be divided into groups of fourteen and a member of the Council was allocated to look after each group.

After sitting down to a welcome cup of coffee it was time for us to tour the building during which time we were able to explore the various departments employed in the many aspects of work associated with the Council Body. We were all most impressed by the organisation and efficiency of the staff who readily answered our flood of questions regarding their work.

We had lunch at the annexe of the offices and were able to relax for a while before changing into our respective uniforms which proved to be quite an ordeal as we had all arrived with cases and changing facilities were somewhat limited.

I am pleased to say that the design and practicability of my uniform caused several compliments from students and officials. I was able to appreciate why as I saw some of my colleagues struggling with pleats and caps and ill fitting aprons.

By 2 o'clock it was time for us to return to the main building to prepare ourselves for the arrival of H.R.H. Princess Margaret. We had all been allocated a position within the building along the route the Princess would be expected to take whilst inspecting the four floors.

An hour later, the Royal visitor, accompanied by her Lady in Waiting, Lady Juliet Smith, arrived.

Escorted by chief nursing officials, the Princess proceeded to tour the offices and seemed most keen to talk to both nurses and employees and interested to see the extent of the work carried out.

Eventually, on completion of the inspection it was time for the Princess to have tea in the beautifully decorated 'Blue Room'. I was honoured to be the first student to be presented to her and spent a most memorable time talking to her. During our conversation the Princess particularly asked me to compare the nursing opportunities and facilities available within the Army and in civilian life.

All too soon it was time for Princess Margaret's visit to end, after what we all hope was a most enjoyable afternoon spent with us.

Once again we were given a short time to rest and recuperate before being transported to Westminster Abbey to join the representatives of many nursing bodies, at the Florence Nightingale Memorial Service.

This was a perfect way to complete a memorable day that I will be able to hold in my mind, particularly as it was also the occasion of my 21st birthday.

SUSAN E. WOOLLCOTT.

CEYLON 1925

At Colombo harbour I disembarked from the "Oxfordshire".

After a nights rest I went 5,000 feet 'up country' by a train pulled by two engines. On the return journey to Colombo there was one engine in front of the train and one behind. Travelling higher and higher the vegetation became prolific. Tree ferns stood five feet high. on one side of the train was sheer rock and on the other side, deep ravines. I saw the flamboyant Flame of the Forest; Daprap, mango and bread fruit trees; the pawpaw from which pepsin juices are derived; the nutmeg tree and the famous cocoanut palm which has more than a hundred uses. The lovely cocoa bushes had yellow and brown pads hanging from them.

The tropical flowers were a joy to see. There were monsoon lilies, cannas, arum lilies, hibiscus, maidenhair fern and montbretia. The grand poinsettias bordered the drives of most bungalows.

In the low country were the pretty parakeets and in the hills I saw a hawk swoop three times before it captured its prey. Jungle fowl were similar to our English pheasants. The robins were as large as our English thrushes and trilled beautifully. Seven sisters like tiny sparrows kept together and slept together on one bough.

The monkeys chattered in the trees near the tea plantations and threw nuts down on passersby. I saw one monkey drop half way down a tree trunk. Then another dropped, clinging to the tail of the first monkey. Another dropped onto the tail of the second monkey and thus ten monkeys formed a chain so that the last one reached the opposite tree trunk. They were furry and pretty.

Singhalese women and girls were the tea pluckers. They plucked two leaves and a bud from each bush. They carried a pannier type of basket on their backs, fastened with a broad strap across the chest. When the sun was very hot they wore a 'cumley' or hessian hood. Two storey factories were built of wood. The upper storey had many shelves built around it, which were covered with hessian called Tats. The green leaves were spread over the Tats. The business of the Creeper (the planters Assistant) was to dry the leaves. When they squeezed readily in the hand, they were placed in fine wire trays, which were put in large ovens where they were shrivelled as tea. The furnances were on the the floor below. Tea varied from the different estates, but the Broken Orange Pekoe was the best. Estates which consisted of hundreds of thousands of acres were always being treated. A few hundred acres would be drastically pruned; another few acres lime washed; other acres liquid manured; others used as tea nurseries. Tea bushes grew twelve feet into the ground so the monsoon rains were very necessary.

Rubber plantations were beautiful. The tall trees with their yellow and ruddy leaves reminded me of an English Autumn. The trees were spliced half way down the trunk. The Singhalese girls emptied the lymph, which was collected in half cocoanut shells, into clean

enamel buckets. When the buckets were full of the creamy mixture (like Nestles milk) they were taken to large sheds where the lymph was emptied into tanks. Acetic acid was added. After a process of time large lumps were removed and the material was flattened into lengths then hung on racks to dry. The Singhalese girls always looked attractive in their native dress, wearing ornaments on ears, fingers, wrists and toes.

In the jungle the elephant was caught by a rope noose. The Mahout had a wonderful way with the elephant. He talked into his ear and gave him a good share of rice. Then he freed him and jumped onto his back. A chain was put round his lower teeth and he was taught to pull large rollers over lawns, and to work with timber. The elephants are vegetarian. At 2 p.m. they expect to bathe in the river. They lay in shallow water and the Mahout scrubbed them with half a cocconut shell. On their way home they collected boughs from the Daprap trees for their supper.

Cobras are considered sacred to the Singhalese. Once I saw one in a tree. Snakes are often shedding their outer skins on the rocks.

Once a year the Singhalese hold a Perahera or grand parade. It is held too when Royalty or high officials visit the old town of Kandy. I had the privilege of watching one, sitting high on an office balcony. The sacred elephant was covered with trappings of embroidered silks and fringes. He carried the Houdah with the Buddha's Tooth in a crystal casket. The elephant walked on yard wide white calico, four native boys running in front to spread it and another four running behind to roll it up. The procession continued thus around the quadrangle of temples. Following the sacred elephant were sixty other elephants with lesser trappings. Beautifully dressed Kandyan Chiefs with three cornered hats and silken robes sat in the Houdahs barefoot except for ornamented toes. The Devil dancers danced with flat earthenware bowls on their heads, aflame with tow and paraffin. Others danced with flaming long poles similarly treated. Young girls prettily dressed, danced and clapped their hands.

At one time Kings reigned in Kandy. It is a beautiful town with a background of orange mountains and below, a lovely lake about three miles long. The wooded island on the lake was once a Harem. The most important temple in Kandy has a Dagoba (kind of pinnacle) at the side which contains the Buddha's casket. Upon entering the temple shoes must be removed. The monks had large, heated, copper bowls from which they served rice to the poor.

My friend and I stayed at the Grand Hotel where the Prince of Wales (now Duke of Windsor) also stayed.

In the bazaar the shops dazzled with lovely silks arranged in heaps to catch the eye, glittering trinkets and necklaces of pearl, boxes of ivory, cloisonne powder bowls and tortoiseshell.

For the enterprising Singhalese the cocoa palms were the most profitable. A few acres at a time were bought, the huge leaves being useful for thatching roofs; the syrup for glucose; the long fibres from

the outer shell for brushes and coil matting; half cups for the collecting of lymph from the rubber trees and household purposes.

The monsoon came twice a year starting as a small cloud and enlarging until the rain came down with such force that the drops sprang up nearly five feet looking like pearl drops. There was always plenty of water.

Colombo is a beautiful town, full of white buildings. The Governor's House stood with other fine, large houses. On either side of the terra cotta roads were trees flamboyant with scarlet flowers. In the European quarter were shops one might find in London and the street drains were flushed with Jeyes Fluid every morning. Pettah, the native quarter had open shop fronts with no windows. Proprietors sat with half shaven heads according to cast. The Singhalese were a kindly people but rather indolent. I stayed at the Galle Face Hotel, the most expensive in Colombo. It was a joy to be escorted after dinner, down the length of the long dining room to the verandah for coffee. There one saw lawns sloping down to the sea fringed by graceful palm trees. In the evening the Singhalese ladies promenaded along the Drives wearing silver and gilt bordered saris, silver sandals and a profusion of ornaments. At the hotel I was surprised to find the waiters with highly dressed blue-black hair held up with tortoise shell and brilliant combs. They wore short white jackets and wrap over sarongs. They were very obsequious. The head waiter was called 'Appu' and the under waiters 'Boy'.

At the top of Adams Peak (six miles to the summit) stands a Buddhist Temple. Pilgrims climb annually, some dying on the way. Another well known mountain is called The Duke of Wellington's Nose.

Once I was taken by my host to see a sunrise. At 4 a.m. we started by car travelling around hairpin bends driving higher and higher until, abandoning the car, we walked even higher and at last saw the large flat Bible Rock. After a few minutes wait we saw a huge red and gold ball peeping behind the rock, increasing and increasing until the sun spread into red and gold points. It was magnificent.

At another time, as guest at a Bungalow, I saw in the evening, a host of flying foxes. Mine host shot and brought one down. To the chest he was like an English fox but then he had large webbed wings and talons. These flying foxes spoil the passion fruit.

There were many kinds of insects. The millipede looked like an old fashioned Swan fountain pen with a million legs like a toothbrush. They climbed the walls, curled themselves into a ball and dropped. There were centipedes and a tarantula with a body as big as a closed fist. The eye flies were annoying settling particularly on the lower lids of children who had their bodies rubbed with oil to avoid mosquito bites. Night moths were beautiful. They were caught on rushes, put into glass cases and sold.

A. R. SPARKES.

HEARD THESE

A certain officer's confidential report had written on it, by his commanding officer: "This officer should go far", The Brigadier added: "The farther the better," and finally the Divisional Commander wrote: "He should start at once."

* * *

A psychiatrist was baffled by the case of a patient who continually walked about with one finger stuck in his ear. The patient insisted there was a fly in his ear driving him mad.

The doctor, after trying all accepted forms of curing the man, decided upon a hoax. He placed his patient under an anaesthetic and "performed" an operation to remove the fly. The patient, completely taken in, left the hospital in a happy state of mind.

However, a week later the psychiatrist saw him in the street and the man had his finger stuck in his ear again.

"What are you doing that for?" asked the medico. "I told you I had removed the fly!"

"I know you did", replied the other, "but you don't think I want to get another one in there do you?"

* * *

Artists Touch

An artist commissioned to re-touch a large painting in an old church sent in a bill for £16 5s. in which appeared these items:—

	£	s.	d.
Correcting the Ten Commandments	1	0	0
Renewing Heaven	1	10	0
Touching up purgatory and restoring lost souls		10	0
Brightening up the flames of Hell	1	5	0
Embellishing Pontious Pilate		15	0
Washing the servant of the High Guest	1	5	0
Taking spots off son of Tobias	2	5	0

THE INVESTITUTE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AT CAERNARVON CASTLE

JULY 1st, 1969

The day dawned when I was to travel to Caernarvon, Friday, 27 June, 1969. I was very excited as I had been chosen to represent the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Training Centre at the Investiture.

I was joined by Sgt. Taylor, Q.A.R.A.N.C., and Cpl. Sheppard, Q.A.R.A.N.C., and we travelled together to Caernarvon on the Saturday, 28th June, 1969 from Euston. It was the first time in Wales for me and I thought it was a lovely place.

The weekend before the Investiture we did not do all that much, but we had rehearsals on the day before.

We were acting as ushers at the Castle itself and Ferodo Ltd. On the Monday we were shown where to usher all the VIPs and the other people who had the £10 10s. seats at the Castle. I was stationed at Moat 3 and Sgt. Taylor was stationed with Cpl. Sheppard on Moat 1.

On Tuesday the day of the Investiture we had to be on duty at the Castle from 10.30 a.m. until 1700 hrs. that evening.

Everyone was seated at about 12.30 p.m. The Royal Train arrived at Ferodo Ltd from London at 2.00 p.m. (1400 hrs.). The processions were formed up. The first to go from the Royal train were the Car processions and then the Carriage processions.

In the first car were Princess Margaret and the Queen Mother, who were wearing green and pink respectively, and in the second car were Princess Alexandra and her husband Mr. Angus Ogilvy. Princess Alexandra was wearing a beige coloured dress and hat to match. Mr. Ogilvy was dressed in morning suit. The other VIPs went in the remaining cars, which made up the procession.

In the first of the carriages was His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. He was dressed in the uniform as Colonel-in-Chief the Royal Regiment of Wales which was formed on 11th June, 1969. In the second carriage was The Queen who was wearing a pale yellow hat and dress with coat to match and the Duke of Edinburgh who was in the uniform of a Naval Officer.

They travelled by way of Bangor Street, Bridge Street and Castle Square and the Water Gate. From 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. Ceremony of the Investiture at Caernarvon Castle. All sang 'God bless the Prince of Wales' when the Prince proceeded through the Castle. The Service went well and the Prince declared as follows "I Charles, Prince of Wales, do become your leige man of life and limb and of earthly worship, and faith and truth I will bear unto you to live and die against all manner of folks."

A loyal address was given to His Royal Highness from the People of Wales and then His Royal Highness made a reply.

After the ceremony they depart in Carriages to Ferodo Ltd. On the arrival of the Royal Train at Ferodo Ltd a Guard of Honour was mounted by the Royal Welsh Fusiliers with Band and Drums of the Royal Regiment of Wales The Royal Train departed at 5 p.m. Before the train left the Queen inspected the detachment from the newly formed Royal Regiment of Wales before the Prince of Wales inspected them.

When he had done this he departed in a Royal Car with Princess Anne (who was dressed in turquoise) to Holyhead.

This was a memorable trip for me as it was my first visit to Wales and therefore to Caernarvon Castle itself.

Q/PTE. ROBERTS, E.A., Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Q.A.R.A.N.C. Training Cenrte.



Brigadier Gordon presenting the prize to Lieut. Christine Anderson

STUDENT MIDWIFE PRIZE, 1968/69

Donated annually by Dame Monica Golding, D.B.E., R.R.C.

Lieutenant Christine M. Anderson, Q.A.R.A.N.C. was presented with a travel alarm clock by Brigadier B. M. Gordon, R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., Director Army Nursing Services, on her official visit to the Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital on 16th October, 1969.

Lieutenant Anderson joined the Corps as a Student Nurse in 1964, and qualified S.R.N. in 1968. She was commissioned in November 1968 following her Part I midwifery training at the Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital, where she passed her hospital examination with distinction.

Lieutenant Anderson is now stationed at the Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital, having completed Part II midwifery training, at Bushey Maternity Hospital Herts in August 1969.

BEATITUDES FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they who know my ears today
Must strain to catch the things they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
My eyes are dim and my wits are slow.
Blessed are they who looked away
When coffee was spilled at table today.
Blessed are they with cheery smile
Who stop to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who never say
"You've told that story twice today."
Blessed are they who know the ways
To bring back memories of yesterdays.
Blessed are they who make it known
I'm loved, respected, and not alone.
Blessed are they who ease the days
On my journey home in loving ways.

FLORIDA—THE SUNSHINE STATE

My first impression of Florida was of a sparkling blue sea and a green canopy of palm trees beside the almost blinding white masonry of the old Spanish houses. I had taken the overnight coach from Columbia in South Carolina to Miami, 650 miles away, and could see nothing from the coach window after we had left Jacksonville in the rapidly waning light of the previous evening. We passed the resort of Cocoa, half way down the Florida peninsular at 3 a.m., a town which also houses most of the personnel who work at the nearby offshore Cape Kennedy Space Centre. A fellow passenger pointed out the illuminated rocket launching pads, over 300 ft. tall, easily visible from the road, despite the fact that the launching station is situated on a long, narrow island running close alongside shore, to which it is connected by road. He told me proudly that he had worked on the Apollo 7 spacecraft which I had earlier seen on television as it orbited the moon with its three spacemen inside at Christmas. He was now returning to commence work on the Apollo XI spacecraft which they hoped would make the first moon landing later this year. With wife and five children he scrambled out at Cocoa in the warm, moist air of the 3 a.m. gloom, then disappeared into the brightly lit 'bus station, there to await transport to the Space Centre.

The next time I awoke, it was morning, and we were at West Palm Beach, and everywhere I looked were waving palm trees. Southern Florida is subtropical and has innumerable trees and flowers unknown elsewhere in the States; after six months in Miami, I regard the palm as my favourite tree next to the oak of northern climes. The palm is from a very large family, of which there are up to five hundred varieties throughout the world. Of the comparatively small number of varieties to be found in one place, here I have learned to identify the well-known cocoanut palm of desert island fame; the royal palm; the sable palm; the palmetto palm; the Christmas palm (so named because of the large red berries that grow out of the trunk in clusters); the date palm; the traveller's palm (whose large branches point east and west, thus assisting traveller's to orientate themselves) and the cabbage palm, the shape and size of whose leaves give it its name. The most handsome of all these is the royal palm, which rises quite vertically, with a small tuft of fronds

at the top, grossly out of proportion to its height, giving it an appearance not unlike an elongated shaving brush. Its trunk is quite smooth and of such a light grey that when I first saw it I mistook the tree for one of the new lamp-posts of concrete now common at home, until I approached closer and realised that there was no bulb at the top. The other most common species is the cocoanut which, in contrast, grows in a droopy, most unmilitary fashion, quite bowed down by its heavy clusters of nuts. I had always thought that cocoanuts were born as hairy as we see them at the fairgrounds, and much was my surprise when I learned that at birth they are decently clad in a thick, tough, fibrous green husk about $1\frac{1}{4}$ " inches thick, which requires considerable skill to remove before reaching the rich, white meat of the nut inside.

Among the many colourful trees to be seen in this sub tropical area are the low, spreading banyan tree, the lime, orange, lemon and grapefruit trees (from my apartment I am able to lean over the fence into the next door garden and pick a fresh grapefruit for breakfast when I wish, whilst my neighbour in turn shares the oranges on the little tree behind this house). In front gardens are gardenia shrubs, bougainvillea, heady-scented Jessamine bushes, wild and cultivated orchids, scarlet poinsettia trees and bright orange poinciana vines, aptly called 'flame vines' because of their brilliant orange colouring. Unfortunately, the fresh pastel pinks of the dogwoods of the South and Northern States are absent, for here it is far too warm for them to flourish.

Although Florida was originally discovered by the Spanish in 1513 and first settled by them in 1519, Miami was not officially founded until 1870. Now, less than a century later, she has a population in excess of a million, over 20% of which is made up of Cuban refugees, and another fairly big proportion made up of Negroes, whose present popular past-time, apart from shooting whites, appears to be staging far from peaceful demonstrations at the local University of Miami. Miami itself is a boom town. Snow is unknown, frost occurs very rarely and it is the winter playground for the rest of the nation. From November to April, they flood in from every corner of the United States to escape the snows and icy winds of their own winter and to enjoy the reliable sunshine, exciting deep-sea fishing and year-round boating. Arriving the first week in January, I was by evening walking around in a sleeveless dress and so mild is the climate that many permanent residents do not possess overcoats at all. It is now mid-May, and with regular temperatures in the upper eighties, the tourists from 'Up North' are slowly returning to their cooler home States to escape not only the intense summer heat of Florida, but its humidity, for this is the most humid spot in the whole of the nation.

The main sport of course, is fishing. A limitless assortment of fish of all sizes awaits the sportsman. Tarpon, tuna, sailfish, marlin, barracuda, shark, bonefish, snapper, dolphin, etc. etc.—they are all

fair game for the thousands of local residents and wealthy businessmen on vacation who take a craft way out into the Atlantic to pit their strength and endurance against the sea world.

One of the trips I made out of Miami was to Key West. This is the most southern town in the whole of the United States, for it is at the end of a chain of islands stretching southwestwards out into the Gulf of Mexico from the southernmost tip of the Florida peninsula. Key West lies within 90 miles of Cuba and only a few miles outside Tropic of Cancer, resulting in a climate even more pleasant than that of Miami, for here the humidity is much lower.

This chain of islands is connected by a famous highway—the Overseas Highway, which is really a succession of road sections, linking the islands by a chain of 42 bridges. It is built on the old site of the southernmost section of the Florida East Coast Railroad, originally built and completed in 1912 by Henry M. Flagler, whose ambition it was to connect Florida with Cuba and Mexico by railway. The Railroad was totally destroyed with the loss of many lives by the disastrous hurricane of 1935. The trip to Key West takes about four hours and is, for the most part, over water—the bridges almost touching the tips of the waves at many places and enabling the traveller to watch the schools of large and small fish swimming in the lucid shallows around the islands below. The most famous section of the series of bridges is the Marathon Bridge, connecting Marathon Key to Key West. This bridge extends for seven miles over water, the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Gulf of Mexico on the other.

Key West, the most populated of the islands, is three miles wide by one mile wide, and has a population of about 42,000 excluding the ten thousand personnel on the large U.S. Naval base and the constantly increasing Cuban element. Its narrow streets and the architecture of its buildings reflect the influence of its earlier settlers from England, France and Spain. Among its features is the Spanish colonial house and garden in which Earnest Hemingway lived for 30 years and where he wrote most of his best known novels. He furnished it heavily with Spanish antiques and later residents decided to open it to the public as a museum. Tucked away in the centre of the small sixteenth century town is a tiny workshop, one of the few remaining of its kind, where one old man makes hand-made cigars from the high quality Floridian tobacco, and nearer the harbour a busy fishing fleet provides the island with its only other industry apart from the tourists.

The slow pace of living indigenous to most small islands the world over is very marked on the Keys, and this lazy tempo of life, plus the permanent scorching sunshine make the islands a favourite retreat for the folks on the mainland who come down to their week-end residences at every available opportunity to fish and mess about in their boats.

Last month I visited the 'Queen Elizabeth' at Port Everglades, nearly twenty miles away. The Cunard vessel has been moored here since her final departure from Britain in December of 1968, and her two familiar, massive red and black funnels, towering above the flat skyline, are visible for a considerable distance. For the equivalent of £1 per person steady streams of American visitors are taken on guided tours over the ship, covering the decks, bars (now closed), corridors, cabins, kitchens and lounges and lasting for nearly two hours.

It is intended that she will eventually be converted into an hotel and convention centre, but as yet no alterations have started, and it is satisfying to see that her British and American crew maintain her at a high standard of spit, polish and general 'ship-shapiness'. The shining, polished surfaces of her walnut and oak-panelled corridors, cabins and wardrooms reflect the same love and care lavished on her now, in her retirement, as when in bygone days, as a proud ambassador of her country, her high bows cut through the deep Atlantic waters to unite the two English-speaking nations in bonds of trust, pleasure and progress.

Launched by the Queen Mother in 1938, she sailed more than 3,500,000 miles, carried 811,324 servicemen in wartime and 1,500,000 passengers in peacetime. Today one can still see the initials carved on the handrails by American troops who crossed from the United States to Britain when the ship, in her wartime coat of grey paint, carried out her war duties, and thanks to her astonishing speed, defeated the continuous attempts to sink her by German U-Boats.

Thirty five minutes by air from Miami lie the 700 islands of the Bahamas. The most popular and most populated are Grand Bahama Island, with its famous gambling casinos, and New Providence Island site of the 'capital'—Nassau. Here among the islands are sun, colour to excess, golden sands and warm, crystal-clear waters in which to enjoy swimming, sunbathing and scuba-diving. I found it pleasant to post my letters again in a red pillar box on the street corner, to see a blue lantern outside the Police Station, to walk down the narrow busy streets with their small English cars and horse-drawn carriages ('surreys') all driving once more on the left, and to browse in sensible little shops devoid of all the high pressure advertising one has to put up with in the States. At Rawson Square, near the 'front' is the famous Straw Market. Here, stall after stall are covered with colourful, freshly-made straw hats and baskets, all for sale at ridiculous prices to the biggest source of income for the Islands—the American tourist. Even by American standards the cost of living on the island is high, for tourism is the only source of income, a fact, however, that I found hard to believe on Sunday when every single shop was closed, as were rental firms and all but a couple of restaurants.

Since its Independence, and with a Government predominantly black, most of the Bahamas' public officials, police, airport and

shop staff have been manned increasingly by black Bahamians, who give an impression of off-handedness which strangely enough does not appear to deter the tourists. When one is parted from one's money in the United States, unless it is at gun-point (not unknown) the party undertaking the relieving does so with at least a smile and a minimum of charm; not so the Bahamians, and I left the Island with the feeling that the new generation of Bahamians have something to learn about the treatment of visitors.

The small port of Nassau is its busiest, and possibly most lucrative, section of the town. From here flotillas of small boats, jammed tight with tourists, take off into the Bay where the passengers are entertained to a view of the wonderful world beneath the waves through the glass bottoms of their crafts. Along the side of the jetty, I saw Bahamians in rowing boats loaded with huge pink conch shells busily cleaning out the fish from them, for conch is a favourite dish on the Islands and these fishermen never go short of clients. The big white luxury liners from Miami and further afield, tie up at the end of the pier, disgorging their suntanned lively and not so lively passengers, who scamper down the gangplank to the shore to part so happily, it seems, with their green dollar bills!

There is so much to see in this colourful, hot State, so richly endowed both by Nature and the efforts of Man, but a visitor cannot, unfortunately, see it all. Next month I must cross the mighty expanse of the famous Rocky Mountains, to settle on the Californian coast at San Diego, on the Mexican border—there to explore and enjoy America's exciting young West coast.

T. W. CARPENTER

June, 1969. Miami.

SYNOPSIS OF THE Q.A.R.A.N.C. MUSEUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE Q.A.R.A.N.C. TRAINING CENTRE ON 1ST OCTOBER, 1969
Brigadier B. M. Gordon was in the chair and there were fourteen members present. Brigadier Gordon opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and saying that this was the first time the Annual General Meeting had been open to all Members and how pleased she was to see both serving and retired members of the Corps represented and that gradually she hoped more and more members would take an interest in the Museum.

The notice convening the meeting was read and the minutes of the 1968 meeting were signed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented a statement of account to all members and stated that excluding the legacy of Dame Katharine H. Jones, D.B.E., R.R.C., the income of £109 7s. 0d. was slightly down on the income for last year of £120 18s. 0d.

As a full time Secretary and Curator had now been appointed it is expected that expenditure will rise as new acquisitions are obtained.

Donations are practically the only source of income, therefore it would be greatly appreciated if these could be continued and increased if possible. All donations irrespective of size are gratefully received.

CURATOR'S REPORT

Visitors to the Museum continue to increase including a growing number of the general public as the Museum becomes more widely known. Numerous requests for the loan of uniforms for pageants and drama groups and enquiries regarding general information on the Corps and its traditions are dealt with during the year.

Souvenirs are now on sale in the Museum and provide a small addition to the Museum Funds.

Gifts continue to arrive including:—

Cigarette box bequeathed by Major G. Mudge, R.R.C.

Scrapbook from Dame Helen Gillespie, D.B.E., R.R.C.

Doll dressed in Q.A.I.M.N.S. uniform donated by Miss E. M. Hall, R.R.C.

Medallion presented to Brigadier Dame Margot Turner, on her tour of the United States.

'Salonika Memories' (the final edition of the Mosquito) donated by Miss Simcox, A.R.R.C.

Photograph of Dame Maud McCarthy, G.B.E., R.R.C. on her visit to the United States.

Amongst the Museum Treasures are two items of which there is very little history available in the Museum and information from any member who may have knowledge of their origin would be much appreciated. They are:—

1. *Gold Silk Embroidered Bedspread*

Double bed size, gold silk, the embroidery consisting of a crown from which radiates scenes depicting the countries of the Empire. This was said to have been given to Queen Mary's House, St. Leonards-on-Sea in 1948.

2. *Red and White Cotton Bedspread*

Double bed size, red and white squares, each square having fourteen signatures, the central square embroidered as follows:

'Made and donated by the Ladies Auxillary Colbourne Branch, No. 187, Canadian Legion B.E.S.L., Colbourne, Ontario, January 1941.'

Expenditure has been small this year but it is hoped that during the next year one more display case will be purchased.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Lt.-Col. E. F. Davies, R.R.C. said that the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association wished to donate to the Museums a portrait of Dame Louisa Wilkinson and also her medals.

After general discussion it was agreed unanimously that the Association would liase with the Curator regarding type of case and frame suitable.

The President closed the Meeting at 15.45 hours.

The next Annual General Meeting will take place on 7th October, 1970 at 14.30 hours.

BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL HONG KONG, 1968-1969

Now that we have had two years in our new hospital we feel that we have at last got used to "vertical living". We have had a few teething troubles most of which have been rectified. There are fourteen floors in the Hospital and the Mess, so one is constantly pressing buttons and expecting to get out at "Millinery, Dresses, Sports Dept." instead of the Surgical Ward. Of course there are always stairs if anyone would rather walk !

As we have such a new and modern hospital we have many official visitors. The two latest visits have been from Miss M. S. Featherstone Dilke, C.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., Matron in Chief Q.A.R.N.N.S. and Mrs. Dennis Healey, wife of the Minister of Defence. Both these ladies were very impressed with the hospital and Mess when they were entertained to lunch.

Corps Day celebrations began with a church service followed by a delightful buffet lunch for the officers and guests. For the Junior Ranks there was a visit for tea to the floating restaurant at Shatin. They have also had visits to a towel factory, a furniture factory and a brewery.

To raise money for Queen Mary's House we had a raffle followed by an Ikebana flower arranging evening in the Mess. It was a great success; a Japanese lady, complete with kimona and obi gave a very interesting display of how to make two flowers and a twig look artistic.

As well as having many pleasant occurrences in Hong Kong, we also have a few not so pleasant. In July there was an outbreak of



Pte. S. Pinkerton, Q.A.R.A.N.C., at a Resettlement Area, inoculating against cholera.

Cholera in the Colony and teams of nurses from all the Government hospitals and clinics were called upon to take part in the campaign to inoculate the population of Hong Kong. The B.M.H. was asked to help and we sent two teams of nurses daily for a week. Sgt. Partridge and Pte. Pinkerton did stalwart work in innoculating almost 2,000 people daily. They went to factories, resettlement areas, children's playgrounds, and even street corners. The response from the public was very gratifying and eventually the Colony was declared Cholera free.

One morning in August 1969, while some were slumbering on days off and others battling over breakfasts on the ward, we were literally shaken by an earth tremor. It seemed to last for at least five minutes, but in actual fact it was only three minutes. We were so shaken in our beds that one of the Mess members thought it was the amah shaking her to get up! Luckily there was very little damage, apart from a few broken windows.

We have tried to contact ex-members of the Corps living in the Colony to join the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association. We have put notices in the local press, but so far have had no response.

D. M. DUDFIELD

FRUIT CRUMBLE

INGREDIENTS:—

About $\frac{1}{2}$ lb cooked fruit or tinned fruit with not too much juice;
6oz Self raising flour;
3oz Granulated sugar;
3oz Butter.

Put fruit into heat proof dish. Crumble sugar, butter and flour until the mixture is like fine breadcrumbs. Place on top of the fruit. Put into a hot oven 400 (electric) for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Serve with cream or custard.

A layer of the crumble can be put into the bottom of a cake tin (well greased). Put a layer of fruit on top and another layer of the crumble on top of the fruit. Cook for a little longer than $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. This can be served hot as a sweet or cold as a cake for tea.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Miss Christine W. C. Hobbs. Can anyone give us news of this lady? A member is very anxious to contact her but has lost all trace for some years. She hailed from Liverpool and was in Plymouth in 1940.

Mrs. Cynthia Giles (*née* Murray) writes to say how much she enjoyed the Reunion. It was the first time she has been able to attend as she has been in Kenya and now South Africa since the end of the war. Any ex. Q.A. visiting Johannesburg will receive a big welcome from her, the address being, Rand Club, Loveday Street.

Miss Ila Fraser. Mrs. Giles tells us she is now a Health Visitor in Ealing.

Mrs. M. E. Nandrup (*née* Daly) writes from 104 Slacks Road, Palmerston North, New Zealand "I was fortunate enough to obtain two days off duty from the Public Hospital here, to attend a Reunion in Auckland City on 28th May. There were several Q.A's from the first world war present, and it was indeed of interest to note that two of these ladies were Irish. We all enjoyed meeting each other, and talking of old times and amusing experiences.

Here in New Zealand distances are not great, and travelling conditions are comparatively easy. I have had the pleasure of just such re-unions in East Africa and India in the past, with many hundred miles of almost washed out roads, during the monsoons. It has never failed to give me great pleasure to meet former Q.A's. I was only an 'odd and sod' as we Reserves were jokingly called during World War 2. Any 'odd' reading this note, might be kind enough to write to me, it would be very thrilling to hear from them.

News of Miss F. M. Clelland required. She served in 72 General Hospital Trouville, France in 1918. If anyone knows of this lady would they write to Mr. A. H. Vear, Homeleigh, 39 Stockbridge Road, Winchester, Hants.

Captain Pamela Doughty who is a patient in the Royal Hospital, West Hill, Putney writes that she is happy, and had an exciting day on the 24th June. She was selling Alexandra Roses in the Hall when Her Royal Highness Princess Alexander visited the hospital. Our photograph shows Her Royal Highness being greeted by Captain Doughty on her arrival.



H.R.H. Princess Alexandra talking to Capt. Pamela Doughty

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The following message was despatched to Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret—Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps on the occasion of her Birthday:—

“The Colonel-Commandant and All Ranks of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps with their humble duty send their loyal greetings to Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret their Colonel-in-Chief on her Birthday.”

The following gracious reply was received :—

I thank you and All Ranks of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps for your kind message of birthday greetings which I have received with much pleasure.

Brigadier Dame Margot Turner, D.B.E., R.R.C. is appointed Colonel-Commandant, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, 31st July, 1969 in succession to Brigadier Dame Barbara Cozens, D.B.E., R.R.C.

OBITUARY

PTE. MARJORIE GLOVER, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Marjorie Glover was a slightly built attractive fair haired girl with lively hazel eyes.

She was born on 28th July 1944, and lived in Chorley, Lancs., for most of her life. She joined Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps., on 3rd April 1968, as she was keen to become a State Registered Nurse and travel, and had heard about the Corps from her Aunt, who was an ex-Q.A.

After completing her Basic training at the Royal Pavilion, she was posted to the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot to commence P.T.S. Five months later she was posted to the British Military Hospital Rinteln, with seven of her friends who had been with her since joining.

Marjorie was a happy and active person, who lived life to the full, and is sadly missed by her close friends. Her life ended suddenly when she was killed on 20th July 1969 in a road traffic accident on her way back to Rinteln.

The funeral was in her home town on 28th July 1969, and the Corps was represented by Col. A. Loram, Q.A.R.A.N.C., D.D.A.N.S. for Northern Command, and the W.R.A.C. Officer who recruited Majorie.

J. JOY, Q/1006194 L/CPL., Q.A.R.A.N.C.

THE LATE K. B. DAVIES, M.B.E., R.R.C.

It always saddens me when I read in the obituary columns of the passing of old friends—I recently read of the death of K. B. Davies in hospital in York and know how much she will be missed by her devoted family and her hosts of friends. K.B. had a very large heart—filled with kindness and understanding, and she always took a keen interest in everything and was a true and loyal member of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. and for a short time of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. She attended the Reunion with regularity and was also present at times in the Royal Albert Hall for the Festival of Remembrance, and told me about one of these, of how honoured she felt to have been there—sharing her memories with so many.

I was delighted to see her at the Reunion in June when we had a long chatter about old mutual friends, but there was never a hint during her talk about her own health. I gather since that she was really not at all well, yet was full of her usual enthusiasm for life in general, and I never realised when we parted that afternoon it would be for the last time. Since her death I have heard from and spoken to mutual friends who were so fond of K.B., and I am sure that there are very many others who will miss her greatly and feel a sense of loss in her passing.

E. M. SOMERVILLE

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

LT. COLONEL D. J. WOOD AND MAJOR S. A. BINDLOSS, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

The engagement is announced between Lt. Colonel David James Wood, the Royal Green Jackets, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Wood of Combe Down, Bath and Sarah Alice (Bunny), daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bindloss of Natland, Kendal.

MR. B. D. GIBB AND CAPTAIN D. J. NICHOLSON, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gibb of Langside, Glasgow and Dorothy, younger daughter of Mrs. W. B. Nicholson of St. Andrews, Fife.

MARRIAGES

The wedding of LIEUTENANT BARBARA ANNE RANGER, Q.A.R.A.N.C. to the REV. MICHAEL RICHARD RYALL took place in Munster on the 4th October, 1969.

The wedding of MAJOR A. JEFFERSON, Q.A.R.A.N.C. to MR. R. BURGESS took place on 6th September, 1969.

SILVER WEDDING

BROOKS—PHIPPS on 20th July, 1944 at Kermanshaw, Persia Captain G. V. Brooks, R.I.A.C. to Sister Mary Phipps, Q.A.I.M.N.S(R).

BIRTH

ANTHONY ROBIN THOMAS born on 30th August, 1969 at Hillingdon Hospital.
Son of Flying Officer and Mrs. Robin J. M. Thomas.
Mrs. Thomas before her marriage was Lieutenant Marlene Dickinson,
Q.A.R.A.N.C.

DEATHS

LT. COLONEL M. M. B. SKEHAN, R.R.C., Q.A.I.M.N.S., Q.A.R.A.N.C. died in St. Mary's General Hospital on 23rd July, 1969, aged 68 years. Trained at St. George's Hospital, London 1926-31. Joined Q.A.I.M.N.S. 17th February, 1932 and served in U.K., India, Austria, M.E.L.F. and Mauritius.

LT. COLONEL GRACE POWELL, R.R.C., Mentioned in Despatches, Q.A.I.M.N.S., Q.A.R.A.N.C. died 25th September, 1969, aged 64 years. Joined Q.A.I.M.N.S. in 1935. Served in U.K., Malta, East Africa, Athens, Benghazi and Malaya.

MISS KATHLEEN BRETT DAVIES, M.B.E., R.R.C., T.A.N.S., Q.A.I.M.N.S. died on 1st October, 1969 in hospital. Served with T.A.N.S. 1915-1920, Q.A.I.M.N.S. 1926-1949.

MRS. MERA NEWMAN (*née* SADLER) Q.A.I.M.N.S(R) 1941-1946 died 1969.

MISS I. V. COLEMAN died 27th June, 1969.

MRS. HELEN SARAH HALL (*née* COOPER) Q.A.I.M.N.S. died 15th September, 1969, aged 82 years. Served in Constantinople and Salonica.

PRIVATE M. GLOVER, Q.A.R.A.N.C. died in a road accident in Germany on 20th July 1969.

MRS. V. C. I. VAWSER (*née* GUDGEON) T.A.N.S. 1939-1946 died 10th December 1968.

APPOINTMENTS—SENIOR OFFICERS

Lieut.-Colonel H. Cattanach, R.R.C.—Matron, Cambridge Military Hospital. Aldershot 2.7.69.

Colonel M. Pratt, A.R.R.C.—D.D.A.N.S., B.A.O.R. 17.7.69.

Lieut.-Colonel A. Boad, A.R.R.C.—Chief Instructor. Q.A.R.A.N.C. Training Centre, Aldershot 29.7.69.

Colonel M. Moreton, R.R.C.—D.D.A.N.S. Southern Command, 3.8.69.

Lieut.-Colonel M. A. Gara, R.R.C.—Matron, Q.A. Hospital Millbank, 4.8.69.

PROMOTIONS—REGULAR OFFICERS

To Colonel

Lieut.-Colonel M. Pratt, A.R.R.C., 4.8.69.

To Lieut.-Colonel

Major A. Boad, A.R.R.C., 10.7.69.

To Major

Captains J. Sutton, 22.7.69; O. E. Pinnions, 15.9.69.

To Captain

Lieutenant J. A. Beer, 3.7.69.

PROMOTIONS—SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

To Captain

Lieutenants A. M. Forrest, 28.6.69; A. H. Morgan, 27.7.69; A. B. Kidd, 27.7.69; P. M. Emerson, 28.7.69; M. A. Seaward, 30.7.69; R. M. O'Connell, 31.7.69; J. M. Mawdsley, 31.7.69; J. A. Russill, 31.7.69; W. Hall, 3.8.69; M. M. Walley, 6.8.69; M. A. Scannell, 7.8.69; M. Gibson, 19.8.69; M. Russell, 28.8.69; G. M. Dargan, 1.10.69; A. Poole, 2.10.69; P. M. Kirkley, 15.10.69.

RETIREMENTS—REGULAR OFFICERS

Colonel H. M. Carroll, 4.8.69.

Lieut.-Colonels C. Fisher, 10.7.69; E. M. Coppack, 4.9.69; B. J. Rattee, 7.9.69. Majors M. H. Rundle, 30.6.69; E. J. Millington, 4.7.69; M. A. Hilliard, 18.7.69; B. Goodrick-Clark, 27.7.69; S. A. Wood (*née* Bindloss) 15.8.69; K. Twohig, 17.8.69; W. Myers, 28.8.69; A. Burgess (*née* Jefferson) 6.9.69; M. J. Joyce, 30.9.69; M. J. P. Webster, 6.10.69; E. D. Keith, 1.10.69.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Transferred to R.A.R.O. on Completion of Service

Captains M. I. Clinch, E. P. Lynch, 1.7.69; S. A. Whiteley, A. J. Chandler, 6.7.69; M. R. Allen, V. Pooley, 12.7.69; J. L. Gordon, M. A. Shaw, 18.7.69; P. A. McNicol, 31.7.69; S. Mahoney, M. A. Williamson, P. C. Hopkins, M. D. Craggs (*née* Ledgard) 6.9.69; F. S. Limb (*née* McCormack) 19.9.69; M. P. Wheelan, 26.9.69; P. C. Swindells (*née* Owen) 30.9.69; A. M. Wilson, M. A. Williamson, 9.10.69.

Lieutenants C. R. Ogden, 31.7.69; L. D. Emmett, V. L. Mutch, S. E. Amy (*née* Chambers), J. B. Travers, 4.9.69; H. M. Beane, 26.9.69; D. Eccles, J. Jones, J. Sampson, B. M. Tippett (*née* Walker) 2.10.69

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS— RESIGNATIONS

Lieutenants D. M. Sach, 30.9.69; M. A. Rideout, 20.10.69.

RETIREMENT ON MARRIAGE

Captains M. Lovett (*née* Reidy) 9.8.69; M. L. Kugler (*née* Kelly) 23.8.69; C. A. Bramsley, (*née* Pollard) 20.9.69; E. E. Davis (*née* Tighe), 11.10.69.

Lieutenants B. Williams (*née* Bradley), 7.6.69; P. G. Booth (*née* McComb), S. Hill, (*née* Emms) 14.6.69; A. P. Slater (*née* Spence), 14.7.69; P. A. Burton (*née* Collinson), P. G. Young (*née* Morris), 30.8.69; H. I. Gennery (*née* Curl), 11.10.69; A. W. Dann (*née* Hunter), G. J. Bush (*née* Widdows), 4.10.69.

REGULAR OFFICERS POSTED TO HOME ESTABLISHMENTS

Major A. Y. A. Healey	Military Hospital Colchester	22.6.69
„ M. C. O'Sullivan	Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot	13.7.69
„ O. E. Pinnions	Military Wing, Musgrave Park	14.7.69
„ P. C. Davis	Military Hospital Tidworth	17.8.69
„ D. M. Dudfield	Cambridge Military Hospital Aldershot	12.9.69
Captain H. K. Savage	Cambridge Military Hospital Aldershot	1.8.69
„ E. B. Pengel	Military Hospital Colchester	17.8.69
„ J. Waters	L.M.M. Hospital Aldershot	18.8.69
„ I. B. Cooper	Military Hospital Colchester	12.9.69

OFFICERS POSTED OVERSEAS

Hong Kong

Major S. G. Jones, 18.7.69.

Captains O. F. Read, Y. M. Ward, 18.7.69.

Lieutenants V. Grant, 4.7.69; B. McVeigh, 4.8.69; C. Smith, 25.8.69; M. E. Mulhern, 4.9.69; A. Cawdery, 8.9.69; M. A. Easey, J. E. Bettison, 13.10.69; C. P. Moloney, 13.10.69.

Singapore

Major D. E. Brooker, 20.8.69.

Captains P. Carmichael, 18.7.69; M. Bresnan, 14.10.69.

Lieutenants E. J. Viner, 18.7.69; A. E. O. Williams, 30.7.69; A. M. Keohane, 6.8.69; A. R. B. James, 20.8.69.

Kluang

Captain K. R. Warren-Perry, 4.9.69.

Penang

Major A. T. E. M. Howitt, 16.9.69.

Dhekalia

Captain K. M. Taylor, 31.7.69.

CIVILIAN RETIREMENTS

Mrs. Sylvia Charles Davis (*née* Burnett) A.R.R.C. has retired from the Hertford British Hospital, Paris where she was Matron from December, 1961. She now lives at "Vent-an-Garn", Lowertown, Helston, Cornwall.

Miss A. M. W. Howe retired at the end of July after 12 years as Matron of Horsham Hospital, Sussex. She began her training in Doncaster in 1935, served in the Q.A.I.M.N.S. during the war and worked at Orpington and Cuckfield Hospitals before her new appointment.

Miss Irene Fouracre. Principal Tutor at Salisbury School of Nursing retired last month after 36 years in nursing, nine of them at Salisbury. Miss Fouracre who trained in India and Pakistan was in the Army Nursing Service in those countries before returning to work in various English Hospitals. She now intends to open a wool and baby shop and will continue to live at her present home.

Miss Maud Ogleby has retired after 24 years as Principal Tutor at Preston Royal Infirmary. She began her career at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington at the time when Alexander Fleming discovered Penicillin. She is the nurse who gave the world's first Penicillin injection. Later she went to India with the Army Nursing Service and learned about tropical medicine, finally joining Preston Royal Infirmary in 1945. There she built up the present large Training School from very small beginnings.

Miss Gwendoline Colthorpe who has been matron of St. Stephen's Hospital, Chelsea since 1956, retired at the end of September. During the war whilst serving with the Q.A.I.M.N.S. she was a Japanese prisoner of war in Hong Kong. Before going to St. Stephen's Miss Colthorpe was deputy matron at both the Royal Free and Guy's Hospitals.

STATE FINAL EXAMINATION

PASS LIST—JUNE 1969

M. Atkinson	A. J. Kilvington (<i>née</i> McLaren)
E. J. Bignall	V. N. Lawn
E. F. I. Bontoft de Saint Quentin	S. Le Masurier
T. J. Brady (<i>née</i> Callender)	D. P. McCawn
L. C. Bridges	M. R. O'Sullivan
S. J. Collins	M. A. Price
I. A. L. Cox (<i>née</i> Ogilvie)	V. A. Pringle
J. Findlay	C. E. Sharpe
S. A. Hall (<i>née</i> Gibson)	S. P. Stowe (<i>née</i> Bailey)
R. Harwood	R. C. Wass
S. A. Isbill	J. P. Watson
J. M. Joy	B. A. Webster
G. I. Kasher	E. M. Westcott (<i>née</i> Barker)
J. M. Kasher	S. M. Wicks

PASSED MIDWIFERY PART I—AUGUST 1969

Lieut. E. Greenwood	A/L/Cpl. J. F. Dingle
Lieut. A. Fallon	A/L/Cpl. B. Jaccard
A/Sgt. J. D. Lord	A/L/Cpl. S. E. Sharpe
Cpl. S. Band	Pt. J. M. Clathorpe
Cpl. D. S. Hart	Pte. J. P. Fothergill
Cpl. E. C. Van Weegan	Pte. M. Murphy

PASSED MIDWIFERY PART II—SEPTEMBER 1969

Lieut. C. H. Anderson	Lieut. D. Shambrook
Capt. M. M. P. J. Breen	Lieut. B. Watson
Lieut. C. R. Everest	Lieut. A. E. Worsley
Lieut. S. Pande	Lieut. M. E. Tucker

NURSE TUTOR DIPLOMA

Capt. E. M. Steel—July 1969

DRAFTING PROGRAMME—Q.A.R.A.N.C JUNIOR RANKS

1ST JULY TO 31ST OCTOBER, 1969

S/Sgt. U. Gowing.

Privates: J. M. Armstrong, M. Convery, L. M. Hand, M. I. Laverty, G. Reed, V. A. Stapley, P. J. Bull, M. Pullin, J. J. Llewellyn, A. Rogerson, L. M. Simpson, E. M. Stewart, G. E. Bridges, K. James, L. C. Murdoch, L. Orton, D. M. Oulton, S. M. Cantor, M. M. A. Coombes, C. A. Hamer, V. A. E. Reyland, P. Sparkes, A. K. O. Carter, M. E. Roberts, J. K. Dougan, M. E. Farrell, J. Helmer, D. K. Ling, C. H. Lunn, K. J. Norris, M. D. Benson, E. M. Evans, H. S. Jones, J. C. B. Russell, J. Calvesbert, M. M. Hurst, C. H. Terry, G. S. Bell, J. Bridges, P. A. Cramp, J. M. Curtis, A. Dryden, S. A. Fairman, M. G. Scragg, D. S. Allsopp, C. M. F. Hughes, K. S. Owen, G. G. Roe, P. S. Ward, M. I. Whitaker, M. A. White, J. M. Brown, S. J. Burton, S. Davison, J. Gray, A. Henderson, C. K. James, M. E. Jinks, R. J. Kidney, J. E. Laing, S. C. Manton, I. L. Stronach, E. J. Merritt, L. E. Pidgeon, R. V. Pressley, P. E. Reader, P. B. Robinson, P. A. Flood, E. Mahon, C. Pemberton.

MOVEMENT OF Q.A.R.A.N.C. JUNIOR RANKS

PERIOD ENDING 31ST OCTOBER, 1969

To Military Hospital, Colchester

A/L/Corporal J. E. Dingle.

Privates: E. Barnett, E. Fisher, M. Morgan, R. MacMillan, J. Robinson, B. O. Littler, M. Murphy.

To Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich

Privates: C. Croyd, M. Malone, V. Parsons, N. Phillips, H. Rowson, A. R. Smith, P. Wells.

To The Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot

Sergeant J. Hayes.

Corporal D. M. Smith.

Privates: A. Calvesbert, P. Dodson, J. Wood, J. Varley, J. C. Coman, L. C. Sherwood, C. A. Adamson, M. P. P. Ball, L. K. Bryan, S. S. Colesbrook, A. Evans, J. M. Balance, K. F. Garrett, S. A. Meadway, L. Noble, M. E. Ripley, I. B. Stanley.

To Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank.

Privates: E. Dally, T. Gordon, C. Corcoran.

To Military Hospital, Tidworth

Privates: M. M. A. Coombes, M. A. Luther, M. K. Erasmus.

To Military Hospital, Shorncliffe

Private D. E. Luxa.

To Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital

A/L/Corporal S. E. Magee.

To Military Hospital, Catterick

Privates: I. Newstead, J. A. Cooper, S. S. Grant.

To M.R.S. Shorncliffe

Corporal Richards.

To Q.A.R.A.N.C. Training Centre

Privates: K. A. Bent, S. Jupp, J. M. Hackett, E. M. Benson, P. M. Willis.

To R.A.D.C. Training Centre

Privates: J. Fahey, B. Squire.

Q.A.R.A.N.C. JUNIOR RANKS—PROMOTIONS

PERIOD ENDING 31ST OCTOBER, 1969

To Commission

E. C. Van-Weegan, S. Band.

Sergeant

S. L. Potter.

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Contributed by Serving Members—re appeal by D.A.N.S. ...	422	18	6
In tribute to Dame Louisa	12	0	0
Christmas Donations	35	0	0
Q.A. Training Centre (Corps Day Collections)	15	0	0
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Mrs. K. M. Booth	5	0	0
Major Phillips	1	0	0
Tidworth Branch (Proceeds from Raffle)	6	0	0
Colonel E. H. Litherland	2	0	0
Q.A. Officers—B.M.H. Kluang	20	0	0
Miss K. I. Truman	1	0	0
Total from donations under £1	10	0	0
GENERAL PURPOSES			
Colchester Branch (Proceeds from Raffle)	20	0	0
*Major E. G. B. Butterworth	1	0	0
GAZETTE FUND			
H.Q. Mess, Millbank	25	0	0
Q.A. Officers—B.M.H. Kluang	10	0	0
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- Mrs. L. Keun, 178 Whitehall Road, Hitchin, Herts.
- Pte. M. L. Heaney, 93 Bearnagh Drive, Glen Road, Belfast, BT11 8HT, Northern Ireland.
- Private M. J. Kelly, Cashell, Carronmore, Lacken PO, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland.
- Mrs. E. Booth, 8 Hampshire Cross, Tidworth, Hants.
- Mrs. N. M. Sharrock, Kilaguire, Pirbright Road, Normandy, Guildford.
- Mrs. K. M. Cook, c/o Lt. Colonel A. T. Cook, Glyn, Mills and Co., Kirkland House, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

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