

Photographs and newspaper cuttings re the demolition of the hospital

Publication/Creation

1906

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/eqs6c2rw>

License and attribution

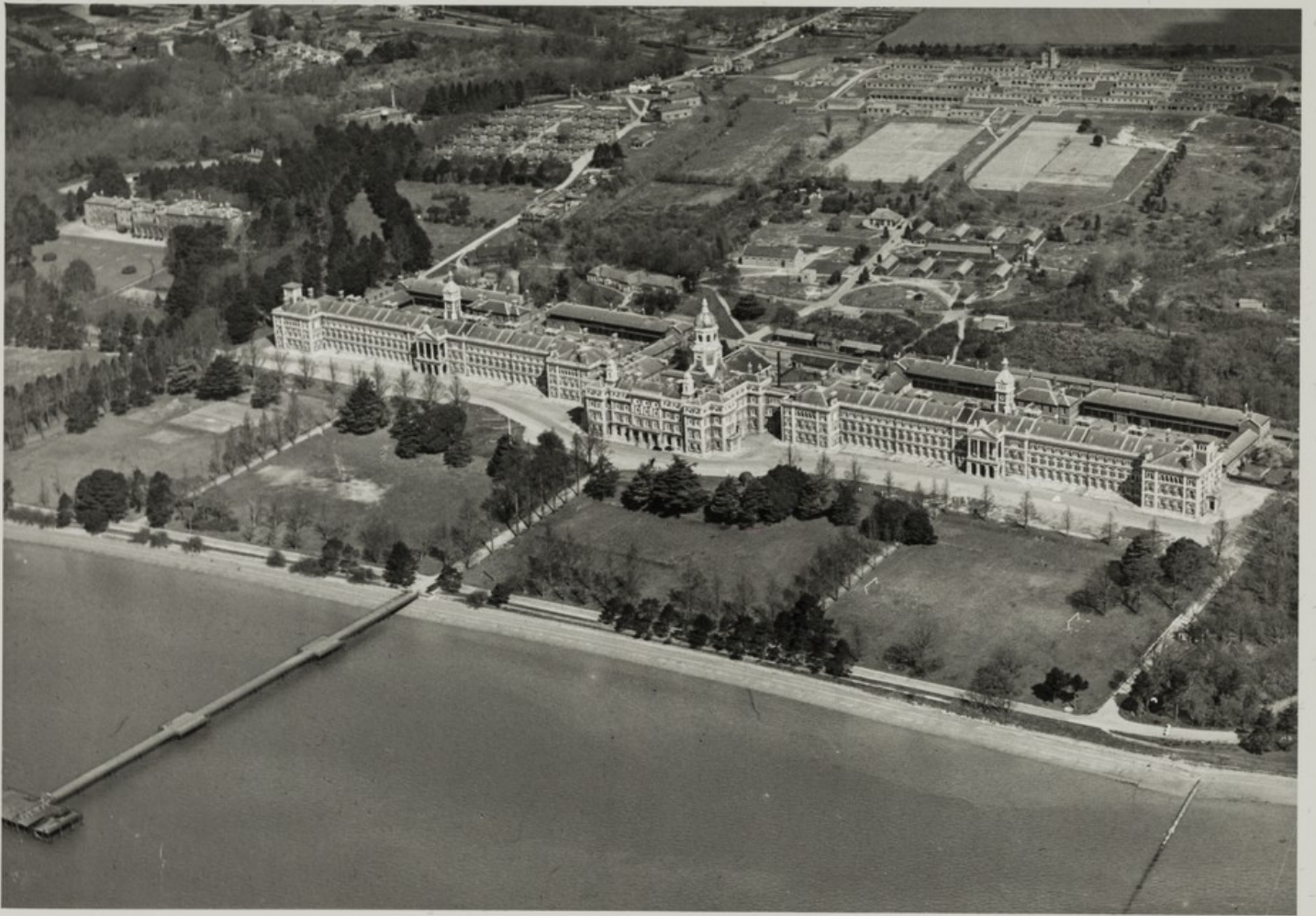
You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

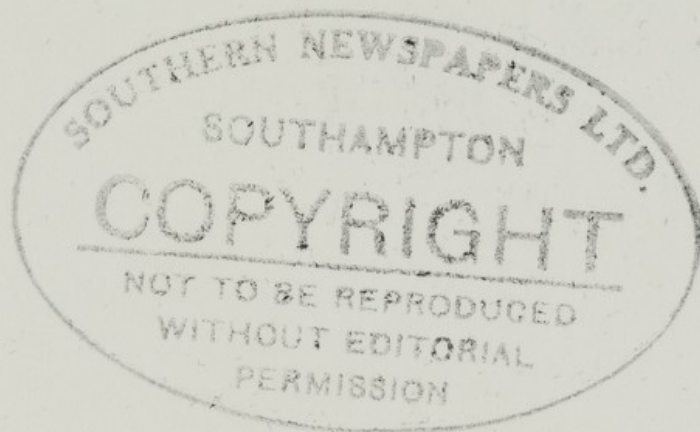
Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



L0063194









Photos: 9

Key stones,

Major. Rundle.

KODAK PLUS-X PAN FILM

KODAK



6

→ 6A ←

→ 7 ←

→ 7A ←

→ 8 ←

→ 8A ←

→

KODAK PLUS-X PAN FILM

KODAK



6 → 6A → 7 → 7A → 8 → 8A →





FILM



7 → TA

→



KODAK



8

A8



KODAK



8A →

KODAK SAFETY FILM ▲●



→ 3A



→ 4

→ 4A



→ 5

→ 5A

→

KODAK SAFETY FILM



→ 3A



→ 4

→ 4A



→ 5

→ 5A

→



→ 3A

→ 4



→ 3A

KODAK SAFETY FILM



→ 4A

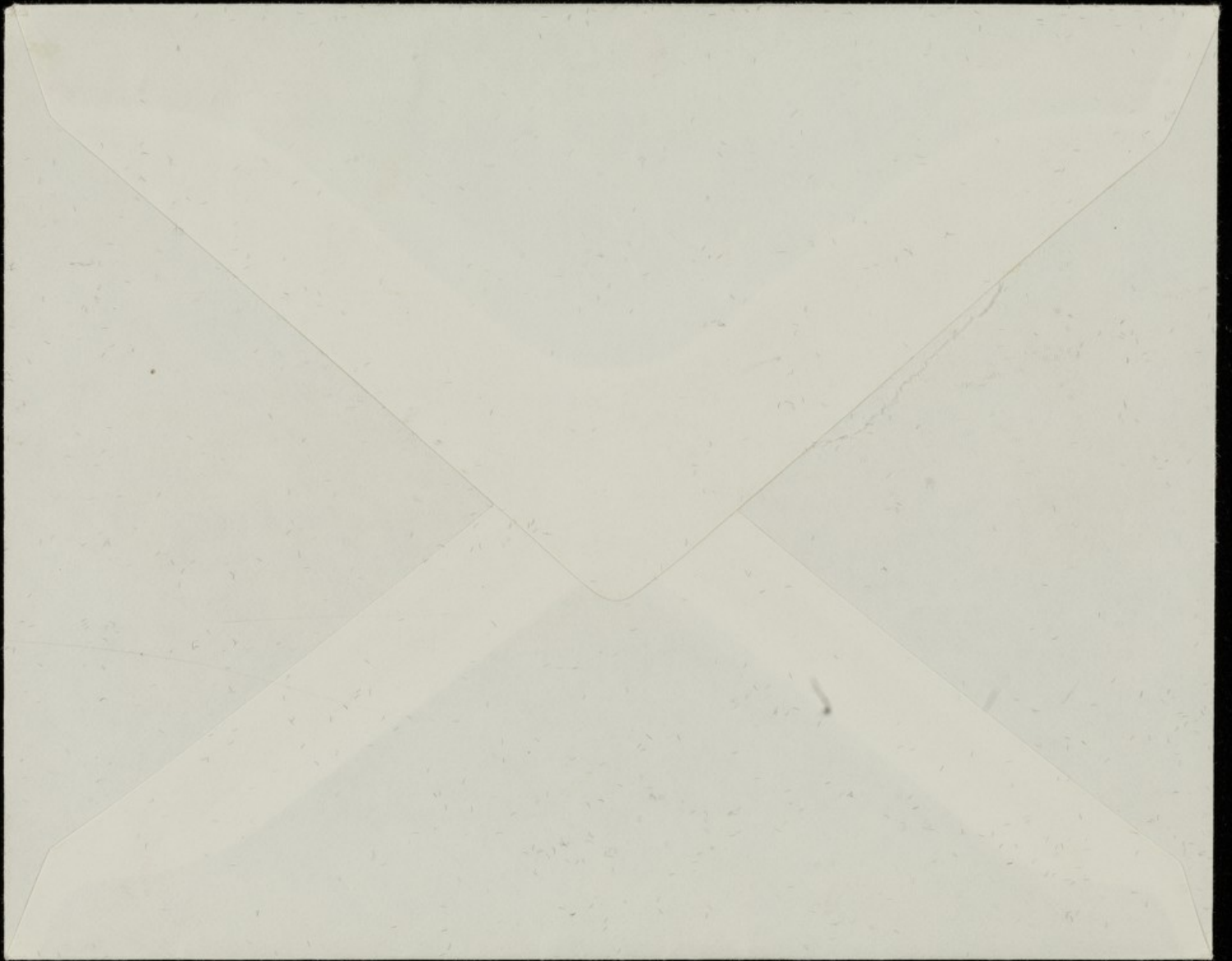
KODAK SAFETY FILM



→ 4A →







PLACED BY H.M. QUEEN VICTORIA
IN FOUNDATIONS R.VIC. HOSPITAL, NETLEY.



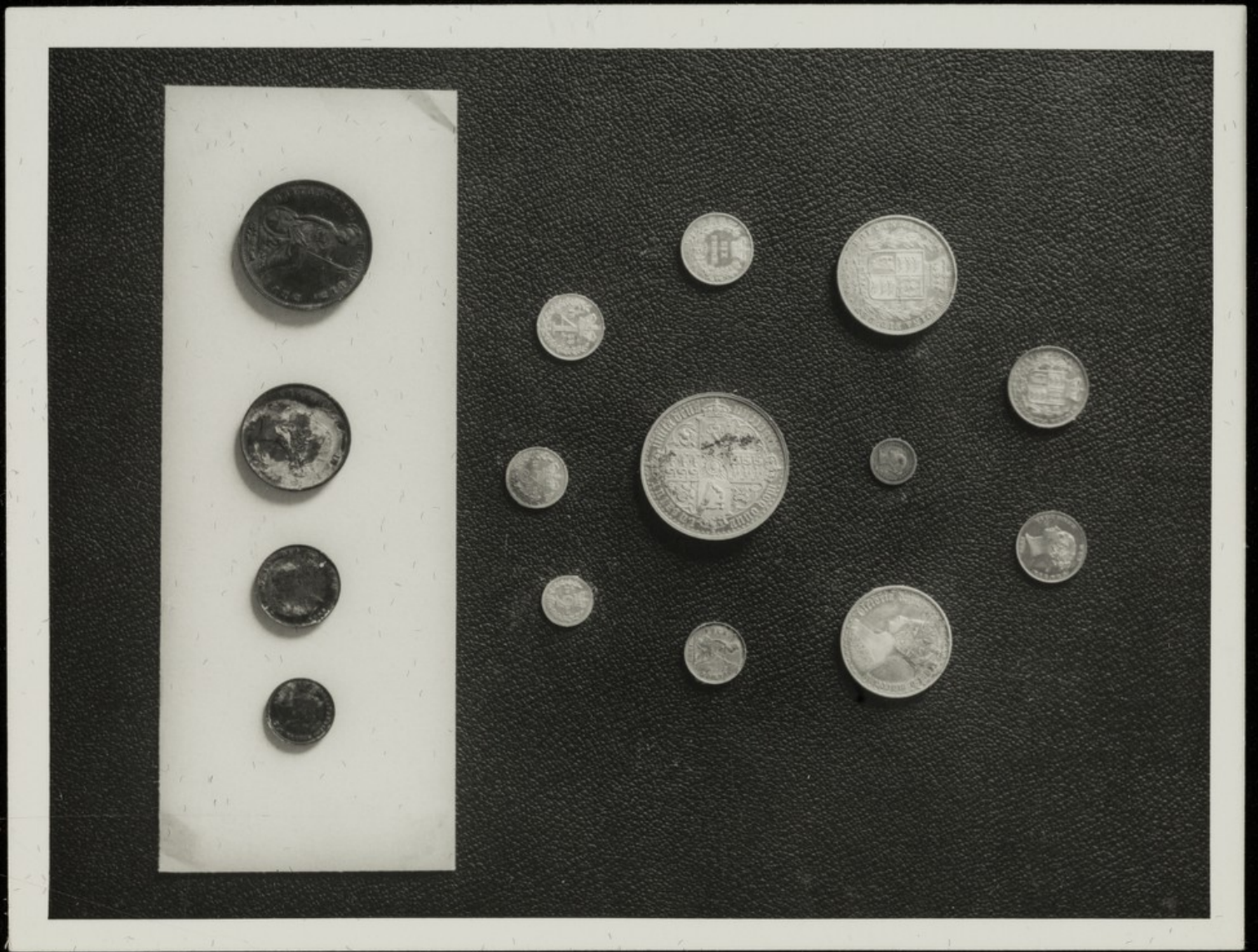
SITED
19 MAY 1850
RECOVERED
7 DEC 1966

7 09



7

99



7 99

NETLEY HOSPITAL COINS

SOVEREIGN 1853

This type issued 1838-1867.
Only struck for special
purposes after 1917.



HALF-SOVEREIGN 1853

This type issued 1838-1867.
Only struck for special
purposes after 1915.

HALF CROWN 1853

This type issued 1839-1867.



FLOBIN 1853

This type issued 1851-1867.

CROWN 1853

Usually issued only in
Proof Sets, this type
struck in 1846, 1847,
1853.

SIXPENCE 1853

This type issued 1838-1867.



FOUR-PENCE (Groat) 1853

This type issued 1837-1862.
From 1862 only Maundy
fourpence issued.



MAUNDY MONEY SET OF FOUR 1853

These types issued 1838-1867.



PENNY (COPPER) 1853

This type issued 1839-1860.

HALFPENNY 1853

This type issued 1838-1860.

FARTHING 1853

This type issued 1838-1860.
None issued since 1956.

HALF-FARTHING 1853

This type issued 1839-1856.
None issued since 1868.



MODERN MONEY FOR COMPARISON



Medals recovered from under the foundation stone of the
Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

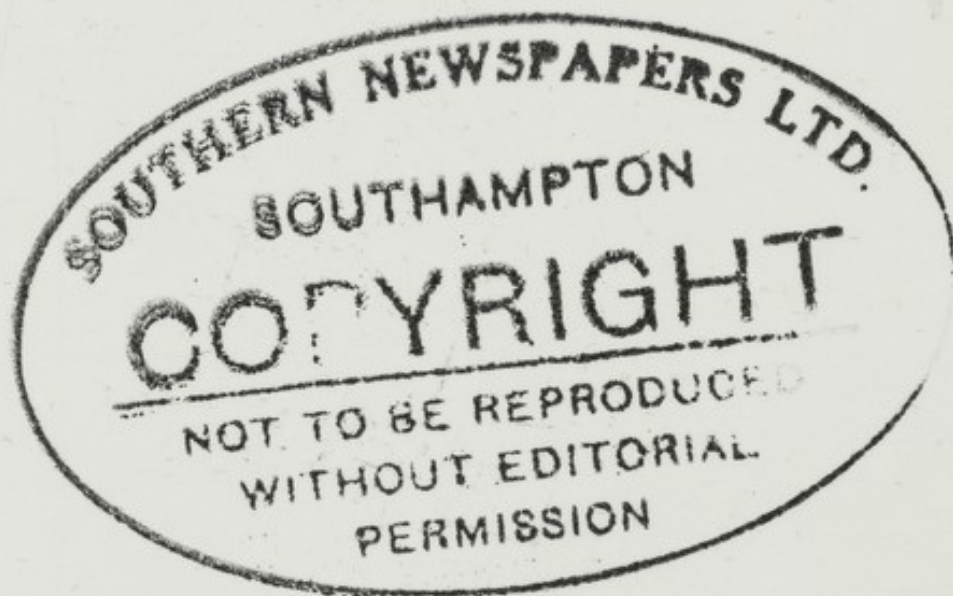


A Victoria Cross

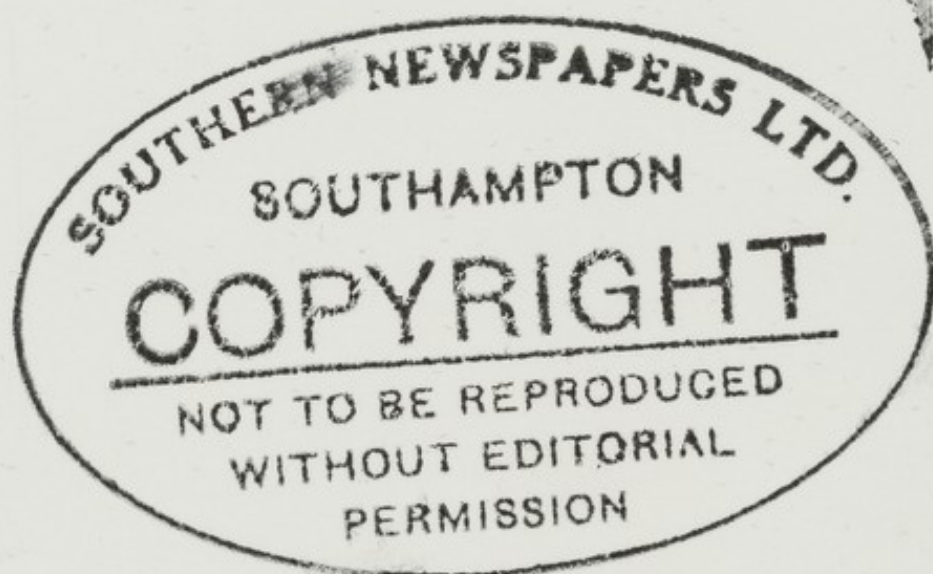


A Crimean War Medal
and Clasp

Placed under the stone by Queen Victoria on 19th May 1856.
Recovered during demolition of the Hospital on 7th December 1966.

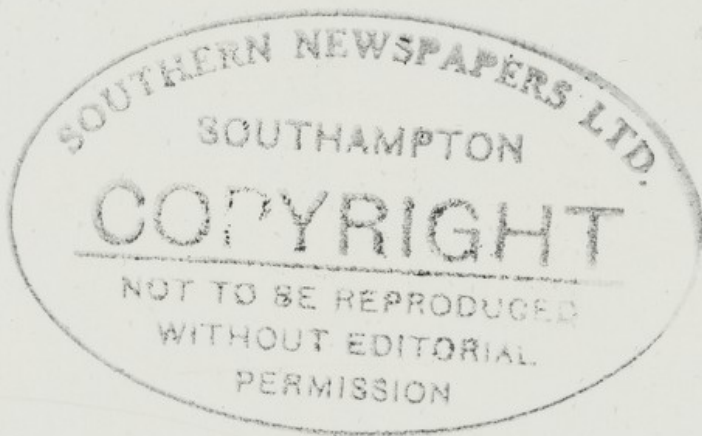












PHOTOS

CUTTINGS

NETLEY PHOTOS

CUTTINGS



PORTSMOUTH & SUNDERLAND

NEWSPAPERS LTD.

Stanhope Road, PORTSMOUTH

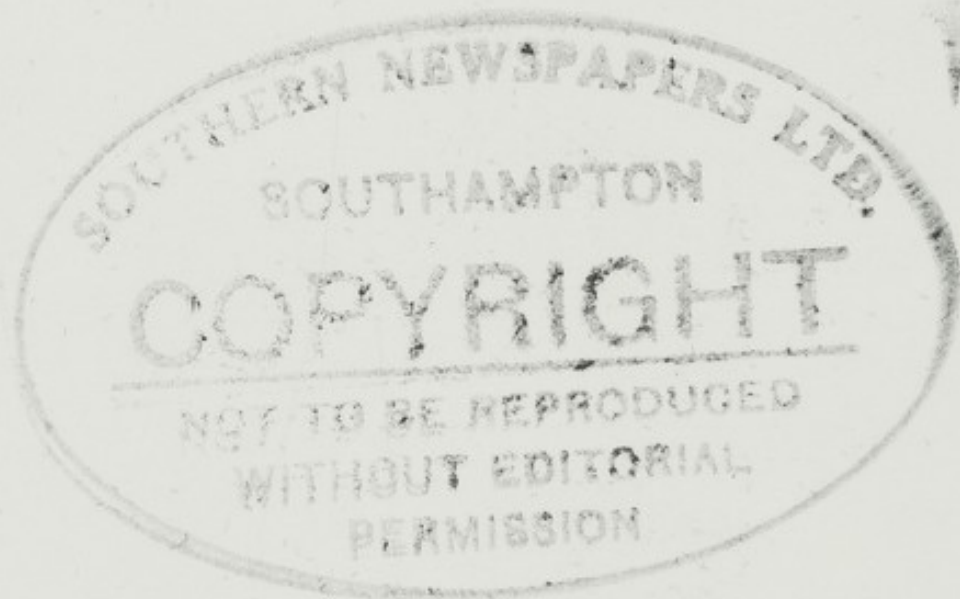
EVENING NEWS

HAMPSHIRE TELEGRAPH

CHICHESTER OBSERVER

BOGNOR OBSERVER





SOUTHERN NEWSPAPERS LTD.

SOUTHAMPTON

COPYRIGHT

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED
WITHOUT EDITORIAL
PERMISSION



РАМС 1091/2/9 (1 of 2)

On Her Majesty's Service

'Alice in Wonderland'
at Netley.
~~(The)~~ 1966.

Ms. Japan. R. 1. 1. 1.

NETLEY'S 'PANDORA'S BOX' IS SHINY BRIGHT

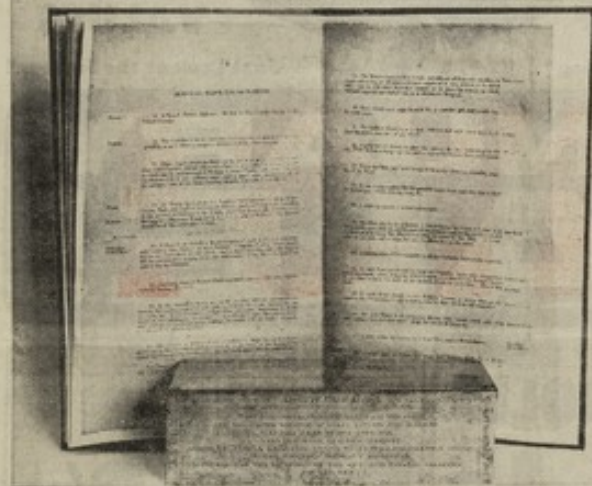
"Echo" Staff Reporter

WHEN the foundation stone of Victoria Military Hospital at Netley was laid by Queen Victoria in 1856, a shining copper casket was placed beneath the stone and, as most people know, now that the hospital is being demolished, this casket was recovered last month when the stone was lifted.

The box contained the prototype Victoria Cross, a Crossed medal, coins of the realm and papers.

Black and green with age and verdigris, the box presented a sorry sight and the papers were also stained and stuck together.

The casket and the papers were handed over to Southampton Corporation—the box went to the City museum department and



the papers to the Civil Record Office.

Now the box, a shining copper again, and the papers, carefully and meticulously cleaned, repaired and bound for restoration, have been taken back to Netley and handed over to Col. J. P. D. Marple, officer commanding the project, nearby Royal Victoria Hospital.

SUPERB JOB
Craftsmen in the two Southampton departments have done a superb job of restoration work.

The casket was cleaned and repaired by Mr. H. Duffell, technical assistant in the museum department—the seams had been forced apart by damp. The inscription can now be read clearly.

Mr. G. A. Wilson, bookbinder, repaired in the Record Office, bound the papers damp and stained with copper.

It was a difficult task to ease the pages apart before they could be dried and bound together. The papers proved to be a copy in the prayers used at the foundation stone laying ceremony, a programme for the visit, a copy of the report which led to the building of the hospital and a

detailed description of the proposed building.

DOCUMENTS MISSING
According to the programme there should have been a parchment bearing the signatures of the Queen, the Prince Consort and the Secretary of State, but this document could not be found. It may have disintegrated through dampness.

The accompanying photographs illustrate graphically how the casket and looted documents looked before and after restoration—a fine piece of restoration work by Southampton craftsmen.

Motorist fined £15

HARRY HOCKLEY, of Plantation Farm, Bamsford, was fined a total of £15 by Wiltshire Magistrates at Overton yesterday after pleading "guilty" to having no test certificate and to using an unlicensed vehicle. He was given six months in which to pay after taking the court that he owed £75 on another fine and £30 on insurance stamps.

Carol attendance disappointing

SALISBURY Chamber of Commerce have expressed disappointment at the number of members attending the annual card service. Mr. A. E. Maidment said at the meeting of the chamber last night that after seeing the number present this Christmas he thought the chamber should consider whether members wanted the service. Other members thought the attendance would be larger if ministers of all denominations were asked to take part in the service, which is held at St. Thomas' Church. The president, Mr. Leslie Tytherleigh, thought that this annual service should not be dropped.

Legion hosts

Wiltshire British Legion gave a Christmas party for 30 pensioners in Haslemore Hall recently.

VILLAGE PANTO IS WELL ATTENDED

IN St. Mary Bourne the Priory Players produced their annual pantomime—"Dick Whittington"—this year—in the village centre. Performances were very well attended. The Good Companion Club were invited to one of the earlier performances. Written by Anne Jeffreys and produced by Robin Mackenzie, Leonard Perry-Williams and Nancy Shephard the pantomime went with a swing.

The casting was good and full use was made of different groups—the WI, children as Humpty Dumpty and as bunnies and mice, and choruses as hard bell ringers.

Scenery was first class. This time this department was led by Philip Drexman with Jean Perry-Williams painting the back-cloth.

In a large cast special mention might be made of Christine Simpson, Miss Andover 1966 (Dick Whittington), Colin Pounting as the Duke, Edna Kingston as a Cockney and as a dancer with Anne Jeffreys and Maureen Hodgson (Miss Bourne Valley) as the Lord Mayor's daughter and a buzzy and dancing cat. Anne Bailey as Tybalt, Whittington's cat gave a fine performance.

Andover man for trial at assizes

A returned hearing in Basingstoke yesterday afternoon, William Hutchie (27), of Nestor-close, Andover, was sent for trial at the next Hampshire Assizes charged with raping a 14-year-old girl.

The case had earlier been dismissed by Andover County Magistrates when the girl broke down in court while giving evidence.

The girl continued her evidence at Basingstoke yesterday. The presiding magistrate, Mr. F. W. McClelland, remanded Hutchie, a married man with four children, in custody until the next Hampshire Assizes at Winchester. Hutchie, represented by Mr. J. D. Barker, reserved his defence.

HAMPSHIRE LICENSING DISTRICT EASTLEIGH

LICENSING ACT 1964 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1960. 1967.

THE GENERAL ANNUAL LICENSING MEETING will be held at THE TOWN HALL, EASTLEIGH on MONDAY, the 6th day of FEBRUARY 1967, at 10 a.m. for the purpose of granting and renewing Publican Licences under the above Act for the granting of Billiard Licences, for the granting, renewing, transferring and revoking of Licences for Public Music, Dancing and Enticing and for the suspension of any other business cognizable at such meeting.

TRANSFER & SPECIAL SESSIONS will be held at THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT sitting at THE TOWN HALL, EASTLEIGH, at 10 a.m. on

MONDAY, the 6th day of MARCH, 1967.

MONDAY, the 2nd day of JULY, 1967.

MONDAY, the 6th day of NOVEMBER, 1967.

and at THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT sitting at BECK'S STREET, SOUTHAMPTON at 10 a.m. on

WEDNESDAY, the 2nd day of MAY, 1967.

WEDNESDAY, the 6th day of SEPTEMBER, 1967.

WEDNESDAY, the 2nd day of JANUARY, 1968.

For the purpose of granting, renewing and transferring any such licence and for the suspension of all other business cognizable at such meetings.

E. DONALD HORSMAN, Clerk of the Licensing Justices, Town Hall, Eastleigh.

HAMPSHIRE LICENSING DISTRICT OF BOSNEY

LICENSING ACT 1964 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1960. 1967.

THE GENERAL ANNUAL LICENSING MEETING will be held at THE COURT HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, BOSNEY on FRIDAY, the 3rd day of FEBRUARY 1967, at 10.15 a.m. for the purpose of granting, renewing, transferring and revoking of Licences for Public Music, Dancing and Enticing and for the suspension of any other business cognizable at such meeting.

TRANSFER & SPECIAL SESSIONS will be held at THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT sitting at THE COURT HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, BOSNEY at 10.15 a.m. on

THURSDAY, the 2nd day of MARCH, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 4th day of JULY, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 6th day of NOVEMBER, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 2nd day of JANUARY, 1968.

For the purpose of granting, renewing and transferring any such licence and for the suspension of all other business cognizable at such meetings.

E. DONALD HORSMAN, Clerk of the Licensing Justices, Court House, Church Street, Bosney.

HAMPSHIRE LICENSING DISTRICT OF SOUTHAMPTON

LICENSING ACT 1964 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1960. 1967.

THE GENERAL ANNUAL LICENSING MEETING will be held at THE COURT HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, SOUTHAMPTON on FRIDAY, the 3rd day of FEBRUARY 1967, at 10.15 a.m. for the purpose of granting, renewing, transferring and revoking of Licences for Public Music, Dancing and Enticing and for the suspension of any other business cognizable at such meeting.

TRANSFER & SPECIAL SESSIONS will be held at THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT sitting at THE COURT HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, SOUTHAMPTON at 10.15 a.m. on

THURSDAY, the 2nd day of MARCH, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 4th day of JULY, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 6th day of NOVEMBER, 1967.

THURSDAY, the 2nd day of JANUARY, 1968.

For the purpose of granting, renewing and transferring any such licence and for the suspension of all other business cognizable at such meetings.

E. DONALD HORSMAN, Clerk of the Licensing Justices, Court House, Church Street, Southampton.

HYDE ABBEY PLANT

BAR END WINCHESTER 62211

THE DEMONSTRATION TEAM WILL BE JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY - RING US TODAY

NOW! Buy BRITISH BUILT FORD Powered Excavator - STEELFAB MK. II -

BIG Horsepower 65 B.H.P. - HIGH Ground Clearance 11"

TWO Lever Control - Hydraulic Slide From The Operators Seat

"To
Tele
South
Are
sell
com
A pr
with
I w
W
W



Mr. B. Chubb, assistant education officer for further education, speaking at the annual dinner of the Totton Further Education Centre.

—Photo: Longman, Hythe.

TALK of TOTTON

...ever seems to happen in Totton. I'm ... to the complete dearth of amateur

... finished ... Alford ... tells me ... road ... after the ... we stood ... support ... soon ... he ... their ... ? Well ... their ... their ... make ... with ... the

DIY at Colbury church

THE Vicar of Colbury, the Rev. D. E. Colin, writing in the New Forest Magazine refers to the do-it-yourself effort at Colbury.

...beers have washed down ... the walls, and the ... has been treated and ... the very high ... arches the work ... completed, and we ... Year we will ... the courage ... of the ... find a ... bring us

... Mr. Mackintosh was ... to dance to express ... and his wife ... included Mr. G. ... Mr. B. Chubb ... Mr. S. D. ... of Testwood ... Brian Hicklett, ... Totton Further

... TO ... FITNESS ... road when ... out from ... driver the ... would have ... over which ... undertake on ... into the ... and Rover ... overaken. ... stopped on ... dded with the ... saw her she ... from my car ... have been ... Rover."

... e too ... ed them in ... the ... and K10 at ... Barlow, ... South ... East ... Camerton. ... dence in ... Barry, ... along ... at ... of New ... tion ... ing.

'Frightened to death' by car drive

A YOUNG man told magistrates at Overton yesterday how he was "frightened to death" on Guy Fawkes Night when a friend drove him in a sports car.

His friend, John Frederick Cornish, of Pinstown Farm, Overton, was fined £20 after being convicted of careless driving. He pleaded "Not guilty."

Colin Kobay of The Bungalow, Pinstock Wood, near Micheldever Station, said he and another friend were passengers in a Buick when Alpine being driven by Cornish between Longparish and Whitchurch.

ENDED IN CRASH

"He was driving far too fast, and dangerously," said Kobay. "So I switched off the ignition three times."

Sgt. Desmond Ford said the car eventually crashed in Whitchurch, hitting a fence and then colliding with a house.

No one was hurt, but the car was badly damaged. Kobay was charged with switching off the ignition, so causing Cornish to be without proper control of the car. After pleading "Not guilty," he was convicted, and was given a conditional discharge.



SAIL TO A NEW LIFE IN CANADA

by the m/s ALEXANDER PUSHKIN

Fully air-conditioned and stabilised this 12,800-ton ship maintains a regular monthly service from LONDON to QUEBEC & MONTREAL

1967 SAILING DATES
APRIL 18, MAY 21, JUNE 21, AUGUST 4
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 12
Special Emigrant fare from £67/18/8

BALTIC STEAMSHIP CO.
Apply your local Travel Agent or
STELP & LEIGHTON LTD
10-12 Freshford Buildings, London E.C.3 Telephone: 3016 3111

KEEP AND BUY HAVE YOUR CARDS PUNCHED EACH TIME YOU SHOP SAFEWAY. REMEMBER CARDS WILL BE PUNCHED UNTIL JANUARY 28th ONLY



All This Week **BIG - BIG VALUES**

Just Look at the Savings!

JANUARY SALE!

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

TOILET ROLLS
DIXCEL
Two Roll Pkt. **1/3**
1/7

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

RIBENA
BLACKCURRANT HEALTH DRINK
Economy 17 1/2 flid. oz. Size **3/11**
5/1

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

STEAK AND KIDNEY PIE
FRAY BENTOS
15 1/2 oz. Tin Only... **2/6**
3/2

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

KELLOGGS CORNFLAKES
SAVE 2d **1/8**
Now at SAFEWAY 12 oz. Pkt. **1/6**

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

NESCAFE
4oz. JAR **4/3** 8oz. JAR **7/11**
4/9 8/11

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

APPLE SALE
TAKE YOUR PICK FROM 4 VARIETIES
COX'S ALL NEWTOWN AT **1/6 D.**
RED DELICIOUS GOLDEN DELICIOUS **1/6 lb.**
FULL RANGE OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

Safeway is the place to buy quality BEEF...

CHUCK ROAST	lb. 3/8	STEWING STEAK	lb. 3/6
CROSS RIB ROAST	lb. 3/4	BRAISING STEAK	lb. 4/4
CHUCK ARM ROAST	lb. 4/2	BRAZIL'S FRESH STEAK & KIDNEY PIE	2/6

Your nearest SAFEWAY STORE..

QUEEN'S WAY SOUTHAMPTON



SAFEWAY
SPECIAL OFFERS VALID TO SAT., JAN. 14th.

HOSPITAL

To

Cross

Down

HISTORIC WAR HOSPITAL
TO COME DOWN.

Daily Telegraph, 23 Jan ~~1966~~ 66

The ornate R-V-H-
at Netley, Hampshire, a landmark
on Southampton Water for 103 years
is to be pulled down by order of the
Ministry of Public Building & Works.
It was at one time the world's largest
military hospital.

Set in 227 acres, the
hospital is a fine example of
fantiful Victorian architecture.
The columns and arches
stretch a quarter of a mile.
The corridors, running the whole
length of the building, are said
P.T.O.

to be the longest direct passages
anywhere.

Lord Palmerston once wrote "The
comfort and recovery of patients has
been sacrificed to the vanity
of the architect, whose sole object
has been to cut a dash when
looked at from Southampton ~~water~~ river."

Palmerston was right about
"cutting a dash", but he was
wrong about the hospital's ability
to care for sick and wounded.
There were 1,000 beds in 138 wards
and the wounded from every
war Britain fought after the
Crimea campaign came to
Netley. Florence Nightingale

2.

organised her Army Nursing Service
(to become the Q - A - R - A -
N - C - in 1927 (!)) there, and
was responsible for a nursing
school being added to the hospital.
She disliked the hospital at
first, complaining that it was
badly designed because the
wards faced away from the sun.

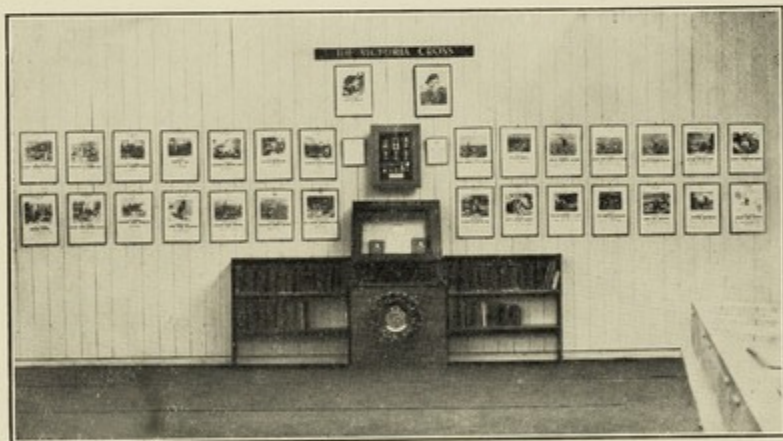
Now the hospital's main
building houses the administration
quarters, kitchens, a training
school and a chapel which
seats 900. The sick of the
modern Army are treated

by a staff of 200 in a
single - storey building behind
the main one.

The site on which the
hospital stands will be preserved
and landscaped by the County
Council and Southampton City
Council.



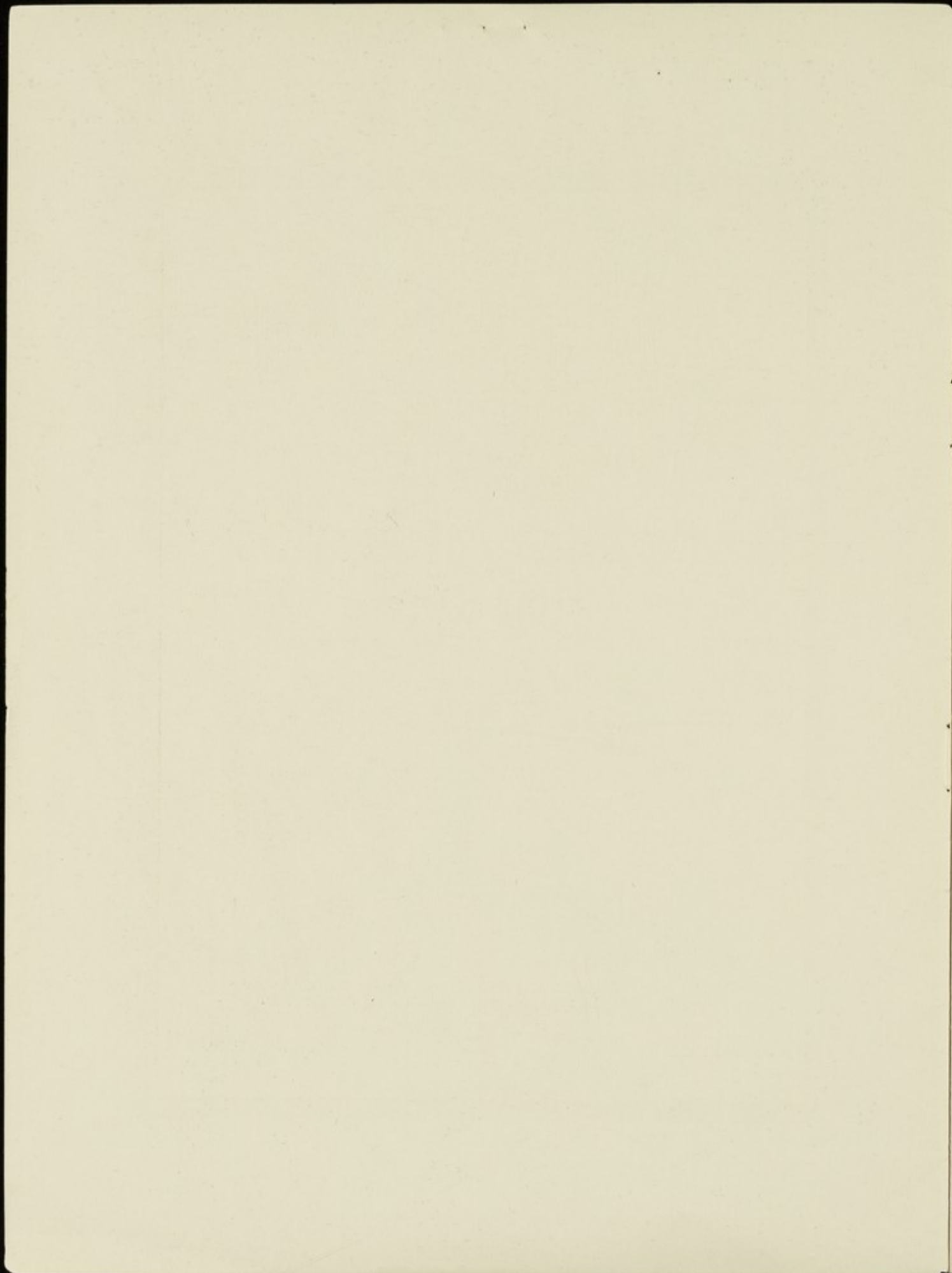
The Army Medical Services Magazine

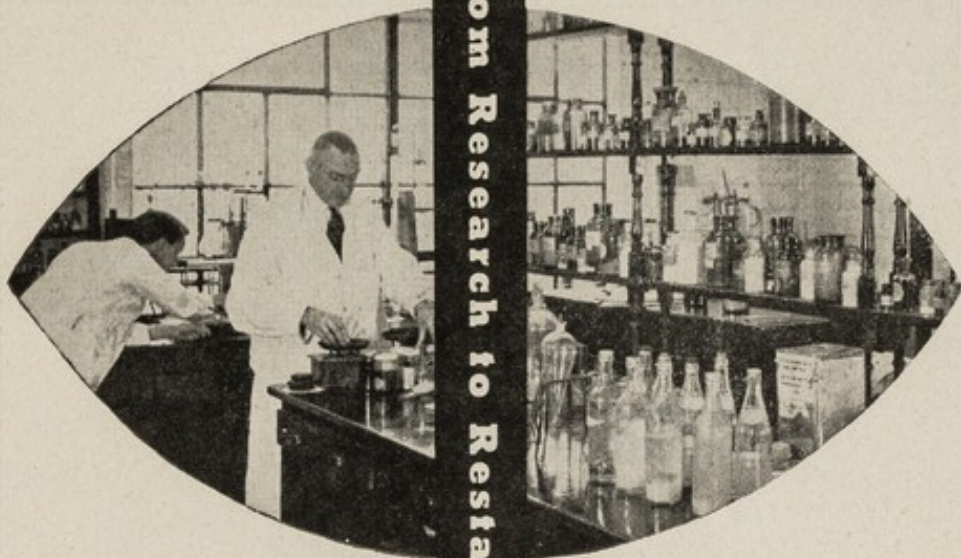


A corner of the R.A.M.C. Historical Museum showing the Martin-Leake decorations flanked by pictures of 29 recipients of the Victoria Cross.

Vol. VIII No. 2

SPRING NUMBER





from Research to Restaurants

As the official caterers to Her Majesty's Forces Naafi meets many of the daily needs of Service men and women the world over.

To supply their requirements through its clubs, canteens and restaurants, Naafi must necessarily maintain a large buying organisation; but equally important is the maintenance of a consistently high standard of quality in its supplies. In Naafi laboratories, therefore, scientific analysis by experts is a daily task. It is one that involves not only stringent laboratory tests of purchases, but also constant research into improved methods of food production, storage and preservation.

These "behind the scenes" activities ensure that Naafi restaurants serve goods of a proven quality and excellence; while, between the research and the restaurant, is a long chain of skilled processes traditional to . . .



. . . this many sided

NAAFI

The official canteen organisation for H.M. Forces,
Imperial Court, Kennington, London, S.E.11.

UNIFORMS

ready to wear or made to measure

TAILORS TO THE SERVICES FOR 70 YEARS

MOSS BROS

OF COVENT GARDEN & CO. LTD.
THE COMPLETE MAN'S STORE

Junction of Garrick and Bedford Streets, W.C.2. Temple Bar 4477

AND BRANCHES

RUBÁ'YÁT OF OMAR
KHAYYÁM
LXXI.

I often wonder what the Vintners buy,
One half so precious as the goods they sell.

CHRISTOPHER & CO., LTD.

WINE MERCHANTS
BY APPOINTMENT TO
THE LATE KING GEORGE VI

94 Jermyn St.
S.W.1

Telegrams:
"Orvietto, Piccy, London"

Telephone:
Whitehall 5557-5558-5559



DAMAGES
FOR SURGICAL
MISHAP

THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

WHEN you register with the General Medical Council you should immediately apply for membership of THE MEDICAL DEFENCE UNION. Then, whatever happens to you in the pursuit of your medical practice, you have available the experienced counsel and financial protection of The Medical Defence Union—the largest British defence organization. Write to the Secretary, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1 for full details.

TAKE NO CHANCES

join the

Medical Defence Union

THE MEDICAL SERVICES MAGAZINE

OF THE R.A.M.C. ASSOCIATION
(Incorporated the "News and Gazette" of the R.A.M.C., R.A.D.C.
and Army Nursing Services)

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>		<i>page</i>
.. ..	33	The Amazing Case of Sergeant Shearer ..	49
.. ..	35	Obituary	51
.. ..	39	Notes from the Stations	54
.. ..	41	Territorial and Army Emergency Reserve Notes	62
.. ..	44	Owed to a Military Hospital	63
.. ..	45	Association and Old Comrades' Notes ..	63
.. ..	46	Editors' "In" Tray	67
.. ..	47	From All Quarters	68

Published quarterly in April, July, October and January.

Send to The Editor, A.M.S. MAGAZINE, R.A.M.C. Depot and Training Establishment, Queen Elizabeth
reach the Editors not later than 10th February, May, August and November.

Should be about 6 in. x 4 in., black and white, and on glossy paper. Negatives should not be sent.

Announcements of births, marriages and deaths, and requests to get into touch with friends, for which no charge

is made. Price per copy, or 4s. 6d. per annum post free for individual subscribers; direct orders of 12 copies or over
sent to Gale & Polden Ltd., The Wellington Press, Aldershot, Hants.

Orders should be accompanied by stamps to cover postage.

Orders should be addressed to Messrs. Gale & Polden Ltd.

PRICE 1/-

APRIL, 1956

EDITORIAL

In 1951, a leading article appeared in *The Times* which contained
the words, "Army doctors are members of two professions and unless
both they fail in their duty," and surely the same doctrine must
apply to old "trade" qualifications in a highly technical Service such as

the Medical Services. The jubilee celebrations provide us with an opportunity of reflecting on the
honours we have obtained in shouldering this twofold duty. The many
examples of military virtue, of valour and sacrifice, are typified in three
of our heroes before Queen Victoria in Hyde Park on the morning of 26th
June 1841, when she decorated sixty-two officers and men with the first Victoria
Cross: Surgeon James Mouat, of the 6th Dragoons; Assistant Surgeon Thomas

UNIFORMS

ready to wear or made to measure

TAILORS TO THE SERVICES FOR 70 YEARS

MOSS BROS
OF COVENT GARDEN ® CO. LTD.
THE COMPLETE MAN'S STORE

Junction of Garrick and Bedford Streets, W.C.2. Temple Bar 4477

AND BRANCHES

RUBÁ'YÁT OF OMAR
KHAYYÁM

LXXI.

I often wonder what the Vintners buy,
One half so precious as the goods they sell.

**CHRISTOPHER
& CO., LTD.**

WINE MERCHANTS
BY APPOINTMENT TO
THE LATE KING GEORGE VI

94 Jermyn St.
S.W.1

Telegrams:
"Orvietto, Piccy, London"

Telephone:
Whitehall 5557-5558-5559

**DAMAGES
FOR SURGICAL
MISHAP**

THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

WHEN you register with the General Medical Council you should immediately apply for membership of THE MEDICAL DEFENCE UNION. Then, whatever happens to you in the pursuit of your medical practice, you have available the experienced counsel and financial protection of The Medical Defence Union—the largest British defence organization. Write to the Secretary, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1 for full details.

TAKE NO CHANCES

join the

Medical Defence Union

THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES MAGAZINE

AND ORGAN OF THE R.A.M.C. ASSOCIATION
(With which is incorporated the "News and Gazette" of the R.A.M.C., R.A.D.C.
and Army Nursing Services)

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>		<i>page</i>
Editorial	33	The Amazing Case of Sergeant Shearer ..	49
100 Years of Netley	35	Obituary	51
Important People: No. 31	39	Notes from the Stations	54
At Random	41	Territorial and Army Emergency Reserve Notes	62
Fuer Rettung aus Gefahr	44	Owed to a Military Hospital	63
Nine Days' Wonder	45	Association and Old Comrades' Notes ..	63
Coming Events	46	Editors' "In" Tray	67
Sports Review	47	From All Quarters	68

1. The A.M.S. MAGAZINE will be published quarterly in April, July, October and January.
2. Contributions should be addressed to The Editor, A.M.S. MAGAZINE, R.A.M.C. Depot and Training Establishment, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Crookham, Hants, and should reach the Editors not later than 10th February, May, August and November.
3. Photographs for reproduction should be about 6 in. x 4 in., black and white, and on glossy paper. Negatives should not be sent.
4. We shall be glad to publish particulars of births, marriages and deaths, and requests to get into touch with friends, for which no charge will be made.
5. The cost of the MAGAZINE is 1s. per copy, or 4s. 6d. per annum post free for individual subscribers; direct orders of 12 copies or over post free. All orders to be sent to Messrs. Gale & Polden Ltd., The Wellington Press, Aldershot, Hants.
6. MSS., etc., cannot be returned unless accompanied by stamps to cover postage.
7. Inquiries regarding advertising space should be addressed to Messrs. Gale & Polden Ltd.

VOL. VIII No. 2

PRICE 1/-

APRIL, 1956

EDITORIAL

ON 10th August, 1951, a leading article appeared in *The Times* which contained the following words, "Army doctors are members of two professions and unless they have mastered both they fail in their duty," and surely the same doctrine must apply to all who hold "trade" qualifications in a highly technical Service such as ours.

Two recent centenaries provide us with an opportunity of reflecting on the measure of success we have obtained in shouldering this twofold duty. The many shining examples of military virtue, of valour and sacrifice, are typified in three men who paraded before Queen Victoria in Hyde Park on the morning of 26th June, 1857, when she decorated sixty-two officers and men with the first Victoria Crosses: Surgeon James Mouat, of the 6th Dragoons; Assistant Surgeon Thomas

Reference
IV (iii)

UNIFORMS

ready to wear or made to n

TAILORS TO THE SERVICES FOR 70 YEARS

MOSS BROS

OF COVENT GARDEN
THE COMPLETE MAN'S STORE

Junction of Garrick and Bedford Streets, W.C.2. Temple
AND BRANCHES

RUBÁ'YÁT OF OMAR
KHAYYÁM
LXXI.

I often wonder what the Vintners buy,
One half so precious as the goods they sell.

CHRISTOPHER & CO., LTD.

WINE MERCHANTS
BY APPOINTMENT TO
THE LATE KING GEORGE VI

94 Jermyn St.
S.W.1

Telegrams:
"Orvietto, Piccy, London"

Telephone:
Whitehall 5557-5558-5559



THIS COULD

WHEN you register
you should immedi
THE MEDICAL DE
happens to you in th
you have available th
protection of The M
British defence orga
Tavistock House Sout
for full details.

TAKE

Medical

THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES MAGAZINE

AND ORGAN OF THE R.A.M.C. ASSOCIATION
(With which is incorporated the "News and Gazette" of the R.A.M.C., R.A.D.C.
and Army Nursing Services)

CONTENTS

	page		page
Editorial	33	The Amazing Case of Sergeant Shearer ..	49
100 Years of Netley	35	Obituary	51
Important People: No. 31	39	Notes from the Stations	54
At Random	41	Territorial and Army Emergency Reserve Notes	62
Fuer Rettung aus Gefahr	44	Owed to a Military Hospital	63
Nine Days' Wonder	45	Association and Old Comrades' Notes ..	63
Coming Events	46	Editors' "In" Tray	67
Sports Review	47	From All Quarters	68

1. The A.M.S. MAGAZINE will be published quarterly in April, July, October and January.
2. Contributions should be addressed to The Editor, A.M.S. MAGAZINE, R.A.M.C. Depot and Training Establishment, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Crookham, Hants, and should reach the Editors not later than 10th February, May, August and November.
3. Photographs for reproduction should be about 6 in. x 4 in., black and white, and on glossy paper. Negatives should not be sent.
4. We shall be glad to publish particulars of births, marriages and deaths, and requests to get into touch with friends, for which no charge will be made.
5. The cost of the MAGAZINE is 1s. per copy, or 4s. 6d. per annum post free for individual subscribers; direct orders of 12 copies or over post free. All orders to be sent to Messrs. Gale & Polden Ltd., The Wellington Press, Aldershot, Hants.
6. MSS., etc., cannot be returned unless accompanied by stamps to cover postage.
7. Inquiries regarding advertising space should be addressed to Messrs. Gale & Polden Ltd.

VOL. VIII No. 2

PRICE 1/-

APRIL, 1956

EDITORIAL

ON 10th August, 1951, a leading article appeared in *The Times* which contained the following words, "Army doctors are members of two professions and unless they have mastered both they fail in their duty." and surely the same doctrine must apply to all who hold "trade" qualifications in a highly technical Service such as ours.

Two recent centenaries provide us with an opportunity of reflecting on the measure of success we have obtained in shouldering this twofold duty. The many shining examples of military virtue, of valour and sacrifice, are typified in three men who paraded before Queen Victoria in Hyde Park on the morning of 26th June, 1857, when she decorated sixty-two officers and men with the first Victoria Crosses: Surgeon James Mouat, of the 6th Dragoons; Assistant Surgeon Thomas



[By courtesy of the "Illustrated London News,"

THE NEW VICTORIA HOSPITAL AT NETLEY, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON

From the "Illustrated London News", 10th September, 1859

Egerton Hale, of the 7th Fusiliers; and Assistant Surgeon Henry Thomas Sylvester, of the 23rd Regiment.

During the past year a great deal of our space has been devoted to Crosses won by the Army Medical Services and there is little new to add. We therefore decided that our cover picture should form a centenary tribute to the gallant men who have played so great a part in building up our tradition in the Army.

By the same token, when we consider the contribution the Army Medical Services have made to the development of medical science and research, it is fitting that we should again look back to the day, only some three and a half months after the V.C. was founded, when Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley for it was from here, as readers of the pages that follow will learn, that there developed the properly integrated Army Medical and Nursing Service which has played a distinguished and perhaps a decisive part in two world wars.

100 YEARS OF NETLEY

IT was a sunny morning on 19th May, 1856, when the gunboats in Southampton Water roared a salute as Queen Victoria disembarked to lay the foundation stone of Netley. Unfortunately, one of the guns of H.M.S. *Hardy* went off prematurely, blowing two sailors to pieces and injuring many others, but this was the only *contretemps* to mar one of the most memorable occasions in the story of the Army Medical Services.

The whole history of three Corps is so intimately bound up in this famous building that one scarcely knows where to begin. It would be easy to devote more than one entire issue to telling the story of the Royal Chapel in which Queen Victoria and Florence Nightingale worshipped, with its many memorials to those who have helped us to build our great tradition, including the beautiful altar rails erected to a greatly beloved character many of us knew as "Snoddy" (Major W. M. Snodgrass, who died in February, 1934), of the famous cemetery in which rest soldiers from all over the Empire as well as from America who gave their lives in every war from the Crimea to Hitler's war; of the beautiful Crimean Memorial and, a later addition, the recreation rooms from woods brought as a tribute from every part of the Empire and Commonwealth.

It was here that our College was formed and Sir William Leishman and Sir Almroth Wright laid the foundation of preventive inoculations. Incidentally, Sir William was Company Officer here when the R.A.M.C. was formed in 1898. Netley, too, was the cradle of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. and served as its depot until the Second World War.

All that we can do, as an all too meagre

centenary tribute, is to attempt in a few columns to give a short and inadequate sketch which perhaps someone, some day, will expand into a worthy history.

How it all began

In June, 1855, Queen Victoria, with the Prince Consort, was visiting St. Mary's Casemate Barracks at Chatham, which housed the convalescents from the Fort Pitt Hospital. As she went into one of the upper rooms she was "quite horrified." Edwin Harris describes the scene: "'Are these really the barrack rooms of these invalids?' she said to me. I said, 'Yes, indeed they are, Your Majesty'; and Prince Albert, looking towards the splendid convict prison built in view of the Casemate Barracks, said, 'Well, it seems very extraordinary that there should be no difficulty in obtaining money to erect a magnificent building like this for convicts and that it should be impossible to find the means of building a commonly comfortable barrack for our convalescent soldiers.' The result of this conversation was the building of Netley Hospital to supply a want which was so severely felt in the Crimean War."

The stone laying

The scene is vividly described in the *Illustrated London News* of 24th May, 1856. It was the first public act of Queen Victoria after the end of the Crimean War. We learn that the jetty was decorated with an archway of evergreens, surmounted by a crown, the entire length being covered with a scarlet cloth. This was not the Netley pier to which we said good-bye in our last Summer number, but was at a jetty built at "Queen's Steps" near South-



[By courtesy of the "Illustrated London News"]

QUEEN VICTORIA LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL AT HAMBLE, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON, 19th MAY, 1856

ampton Gate at the end of the Hard, some wooden stumps of which are said to be still standing. She is said to have arrived by sea because she did not like Southampton, which, she had been heard to say, had snubbed her. This, however, did not prevent her meeting the ex-Mayor, Mr. Tucker, when she arrived, accompanied by the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), the Princess Royal and the Duchess of Wellington.

She then proceeded to the scene of the stone-laying, where the Commanding Engineer showed her the plans of the building drawn up by the architect of the War Department, Mr. Mennie. When she had approved these they were placed in a copper box together with "coins, medals and cross and a vellum document recording the event." Is it idle to speculate whether this might possibly have been a Victoria Cross, which must have been very much in her mind at this time as it had been introduced in January of the same year? In this perhaps unlikely event it means one more V.C. in the possession of the Medical Services.

Lord Panmure, Secretary of War, then said

in "a loud and distinct voice": "I am directed to declare the first stone of the Military Hospital is laid and that Her Majesty has been pleased to sanction its being called the Royal Victoria Hospital."

After the ceremony it is clear that "a good time was had by all." Her Majesty passed through a tent in which a "substantial dinner" for the troops was provided; the ex-Mayor and Corporation followed the Royal Yacht at a respectful distance in the steamboat *Medina*, and, having broken loose from the procession, "partook of a grand banquet on board," and the day ended with a blaze of fireworks on Southampton Water.

Those Netley corridors!

The "immense magnitude of this gigantic establishment" is emphasized in all the current literature. It was originally expected to be finished in three years, but it took over seven; in fact, in 1859 it was estimated that another four years were expected to elapse before completion. In the issue of 10th September, 1859, the *Illustrated London News* tells us that it is

a quarter of a mile long. It is interesting to note that the North and South wings seem to have been designed to house *convalescents*; these are connected by "immensely long corridors." In his notes on the hospital the Rev. E. H. Pillifant writes: "Travel along the corridors from end to end and you will have covered well over three-quarters of a mile. Again, in 1859 we read of a "magnificent corridor on each floor running the entire length of the building, perhaps the longest in the world." We very much doubt whether "magnificent" is the epithet applied by the many generations of soldiers to whom the task of "floor bashing" has fallen! Perhaps their attitude is more faithfully reflected in "ROC's" famous cartoon which we here reproduce again.

The building itself occupies ten acres of ground, some two to three million cubic feet of stone have gone into its fabric, while if you start counting the bricks you will certainly end up in "D" Block—there are upwards of thirty million of them!

Careful and prolonged research have failed

to establish the truth of persistent rumours that, from time to time, a footsore staff have resorted to roller skates, bicycles and even (during the American Occupation) jeeps in doing their rounds of the hospital.

The passing of time

Lack of space will not allow us to trace the many ups and downs sustained by the hospital with the passing years. We have already told of the building of the pier in 1864. "D" Block for mental patients was begun in 1866. In 1870 we read of an extension of the railway line to a private station at the hospital; a laundry and colony of married quarters sprang up in the grounds; but with it all the old place remained stolidly Victorian, so much so that when modern facilities were needed for dermatological work it was necessary to build a new *ad hoc* block on a pavilion basis. Ever since the R.A.M.C. was formed in 1898, No. 4 Company had its home at Netley. A full story of the company is to be found in our Summer issue of 1952.



"Is it true this is the longest hospital corridor in the world?"



"Yes, this is a vast place—busy, too—but you'll get used to it"

The Americans take over

It must have been a considerable shock to the old place when the American Medical Corps took over on 15th January, 1944. One might have expected that our allies, with their up-to-date, stream-lined technique, would have been scornful of what, to them, must have seemed something of an "ancient monument." This was far from being the case, and we found the old lady asserted her dignity to such effect that the Americans often outdid our own men in their interest and veneration of the old tradition. They wisely did not attempt to doll the old place up in 1944 fashion, but converted the huddled dermatological site into a modern general hospital. No. 4 Company was sent packing to Westbury. When the hospital was handed back in 1945, No. 20 Company took over, and it was not until October, 1951, that it resumed its historic title of No. 4. The day of handing over will always be remembered by those who took part. It was certainly not spent in a mood of depression. General Hood in an after-luncheon speech solemnly announced that it was a Netley tradition for the Commanding Officer and Matron to plunge off the pier into Southampton Water, winter and summer, every morning before breakfast, while General Hawley told us that the American Medical Service had learned much from our own. After the War of Independence they took over many of our army forms *en bloc*. They had, however, deemed it advisable to amend a column in the A. & D. Book in which his countrymen admitted to hospital appeared under the general heading of "Rebels"!

In his speech of handing over General Hood uttered a tribute to Netley which forms a fitting end to this centenary survey:

"This historic hospital, the first and largest military hospital in the Empire, was erected by the express command of Her Majesty, and was completed in the year 1863.

"From that date until today the hospital has

received sick and wounded from every theatre of war in which our armies have been engaged. During the whole of this period broken men from all parts of the Empire have looked with renewed hope upon this building as their ship has sailed up the sparkling waters of Southampton Water.

"It was here that Florence Nightingale's glorious Crimean experiment fructified in the magnificent Nursing Service which serves the Army today.

"Within these precincts the Royal Army Medical Corps had its birth, and for many years, under the inspiration of such great names as Leishman, it was the home of research and of training in military medicine and hygiene. This work of research and of training of generations of all ranks of the medical services has gone on without interruption up to this day.

"The last convoy arrived from the battlefields of Italy two weeks ago. Let us remember that their fathers, their grandfathers and their great-grandfathers before them were wheeled along these famous corridors, having come from the battlefields of the world in the First World War, and before then from Magersfontein and Colenso, from Majuba, Tel-el-Kebir, Khartoum and Omdurman, from China, Chitral and all our Frontier wars and so right back to the days when the wounded veterans of Sebastopol and Balaklava traversed this self-same avenue to find a refuge in Netley Hospital."

Note.—In compiling these notes we gratefully acknowledge the help given by Colonel Phillipson, commanding the Royal Victoria Hospital; by Mr. Crisp, of Brighton, whose frequent gifts of cuttings and pictures relating to the early days of the R.A.M.C. are of the greatest interest and value; and by the Rev. E. H. Pillifant, whose long and careful researches make his notes on the Hospital a most valuable contribution to the history of the Corps.

The Editors greatly regret that, owing to the recent dispute in the printing industry, the issue of our Spring number has been very considerably delayed

WE gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following: *Military Medicine (U.S.A.)*, *The Royal Army Pay Corps Journal*, *R.E.M.E.*, *The Royal Pioneer*, *R.A.O.C. Gazette*, *Journal of the R.A.V.C.*, *The Globe and Laurel*, *The Old Contemptible*, *The Waggoner*, *The Sapper*, *Ef Med Niger*, *Owl Pie*.

IMPORTANT PEOPLE

NUMBER 31

LIEUT.-GENERAL W. A. D. DRUMMOND,
C.B., C.B.E., Q.H.S., F.R.C.S., D.L.O.

Director-General, Army Medical Services.

OUR new Director-General was born in Cape Colony on 16th September, 1901. Parental influence sought to guide him first into the Navy, then to civil engineering for which, indeed, he received a certain amount of coaching. Despite this family pressure, with characteristic determination, he set his heart at a very early age on becoming a surgeon in the Army. In the course of achieving this ambition it is interesting to note that at one time he almost turned aside into taking up dentistry.

His military career began immediately after the First World War, when he had the distinction of being the very first man to join the Dundee Company of the Officers' Training Corps; he was a student at St. Andrew's at the time. It was while serving with this unit that he was sent to Aldershot on a P.T. course in the early twenties. Here fate took a hand, for he paid a visit to the officer commanding the Cambridge Hospital. He was received with the greatest kindness and courtesy, and the immense clinical opportunities of a military hospital were demonstrated to him; the die was cast and he was confirmed in his determination to follow his youthful ambition.

In January, 1925, he was one of the very last batch of R.A.M.C. officers to be called upon to pass an entrance examination before receiving a commission. The papers, clinicals and orals were trying ordeals for a young Scottish student, but again he was lucky in his contacts, for the Director-General, Sir William Leishman, gave him a cordial welcome as a pupil of his old friend John Yule Mackey, the celebrated anatomist whose name will be well known to readers from Glasgow and Dundee.

In the R.A.M. College at London, the Depot and the near-by School of Hygiene with its practical ideas, was opened the door to a new and vigorous life. Meantime, let it be said that the prize money from the Montefiore, Marshall Webb and Parkes prizes added something to the spice of life.

His first appointment as O.C., The Military Hospital, Gravesend, was no sinecure as, among other things, he had to persuade a sapper full colonel that his newly laid drain was not up to the medical standards. However, there was still time for study, and on 29th January, 1926, he left for India on the *Neuralia* with the first part of the



Diploma of Laryngo-otology in his pocket. A series of Frontier stations, R.M.O. 2nd Seaforths and 2nd Cameronians, two and a half years in Razmak, together with a trek to the border of Chinese Turkistan, completed his first Indian tour.

On return to the United Kingdom he was appointed Adjutant of 47 (2nd London) Division, T.A. A medley of T.E.W.Ts., war games and week-end exercises ensued. He also found time to apply himself to his chosen speciality and was appointed E.N.T. Registrar at Golden Square and Albert Dock Hospitals. While occupied with the Senior Course he obtained his primary fellowship and passed his Army specialist examination with distinction before embarking for India.

He was soon to see the working of a military hospital from the patients' aspect, for at Bareilly, his first station, he was admitted to hospital on three successive occasions, first with smallpox, then with appendicitis and finally with scarlet fever. Shaking the dust of Bareilly, he left for Rawalpindi to take over as E.N.T. Specialist,

Northern Command. In 1939 he was invited to apply for the chair of otolaryngology in the Royal University of Baghdad. With the prospect of secondment he left India for the United Kingdom, to find soon after arrival that Hitler had upset his plans, and he was mobilized as E.N.T. Specialist to 12 General Hospital and was subsequently dispatched via France to Palestine.

In 1940 he was placed in charge of the Polish Medical personnel who had broken out of Syria. Under his tutelage the 1 Polish General Hospital was formed and trained at Sarafand. He was then appointed O.C. 3/3 Light Field Ambulance, and was with the Desert Rats at Tobruk and the battle Beta Tomma. After the push back he again received the Polish call and joined them in Perthshire as "A.D.M.S. Poles." He found that malaria and malnutrition were rife in Anders' army. The dependents of this army and the civilian evacuees were in an even worse state. At that time there was no chloramphenicol and, to add to the troubles, the Poles had frozen all the quinine they could lay their hands on for their troops in Russia. When Russia decided to stop the Polish evacuation he was appointed O.C. 31 Combined Indian General Hospital. For his work with the Poles he was awarded the Polonia Restituta. After much agitation, 31 C.I.G.H. left Perthshire for Italy. However, the unit was held up in Egypt owing to the Greek mutiny. He whiled away the time by opening up a smallpox hospital and looking after the Yugoslav evacuees.

Then he went back to the Poles. His unit went to Italy, where it was employed in the evacuation and treatment of their wounded from Cassino. After Ancona and Rimini he was promoted to command 45 General Hospital, Taranto, which was the Yugoslav Base Hospital. Here his engineering propensities broke loose and bridges and swimming baths for the benefit of his patients were, under his organization, constructed. Then, as a bolt from the blue, he was posted as A.D.M.S., Greece.

In 1946 he returned home as a guest on Air Marshal Foggerty's Mitchell Bomber. After a period of rehabilitation he was appointed Adviser in Otolaryngology.

In 1949 he had the distinction of being the first person to obtain the F.R.C.S. with otolaryngology as a special subject. During this time he developed close liaison between the Army and

Westminster Hospital in the treatment of malignant disease and was responsible for making the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital the Army's centre for neoplastic disease. At the same time he interested himself in the academic and professional training of Army Specialists and played a large part in organizing Millbank to meet their requirements.

In 1950 he was appointed A.D.M.S., Malaya Command. There, among other things, he built up the Gurkha Sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculous diseases and established a standard of treatment equal to that at the best home sanatorium.

In 1953 he proceeded to Fayid as D.M.S., M.E.L.F., where it is believed he burst the bogey called frustration and gave a new look to the standards of medical centres.

In 1954 he was called home to become Deputy Director-General, and he assumed the appointment of Director-General on 4th April, 1956.

Though he lays no claim to any kind of gladiatorial status in the field of sport, he keenly follows the fortunes of our Corps games. In his spare time he is addicted to the study of architecture, to painting and to the collection of medals.

One of the prerogatives of a regimental journal is the fact that one may, within the bounds of decorum, indicate the shortcomings of those in high places. The following snatch of conversation was heard at a fairly recent cocktail party: "The trouble with this chap is that he seems to think of nothing but the treatment of sick and wounded soldiers and the efficiency and good name of the Medical Services."

On second thoughts perhaps this is not too grievous a fault in our new D.G.! General Drummond tells us that he has received a large number of congratulations and expressions of good will from all ranks of the Medical Services, and asks us to convey the following message:

"On assuming the appointment of Director-General I am deeply sensible of the honour which I have received and am also conscious of my responsibilities.

"In thanking you—all ranks of the three constituent Corps of all categories, both past and present—for your good wishes and expressions of loyalty I would add that I shall at all times confidently rely upon your staunch support."

AT RANDOM

Privates' Enterprise

Sergeant W. Fox, in charge of gate police at Netley, writing of days gone by, tells the following story:

"During the General Strike of 1926 the shipping companies got permission to embark passengers in lighters from the Hospital pier, and the road leading from the main gates to the pier was lined with vehicles of every description, including many beautiful coaches from London, conveying passengers to the *Nakunda* and *Maloga*, anchored in the Solent. The C.O. gave orders that no baggage was to be handled by troops, but some of the more enterprising boys changed into civilian clothing and boasted that night of collecting as much as £3 in tips."

Anchors Aweigh

How many readers know that the U.S. Navy, as well as the Army, occupied Netley? Mr. Robinson, Chief Clerk, Medical Boards at Netley, has supplied us with some interesting details.

"Soon after occupation by the American Army the Hospital was again handed over, but this time to the American Navy. The Navy soon put the Hospital in 'ship-shape' condition. Firstly, it was no longer a building but a 'Hospital Ship' and everything went to naval routine and order. The floors, first, second and third, became 'decks,' lower, middle and top. They ceased to be polished but were scrubbed down navy fashion. All time went by 'Bells'—this causing quite a bit of confusion among the old hands, both civilian and military, left behind by the R.V.H. The Officers' Mess waiters—sorry, 'stewards'—were most of all put out, the Chief Steward in particular, he being so long on the job and used to waiting on Army officers. The Sergeants' Mess was converted into a glorified 'Ward Room' for use of the initiated—three knocks and ask for 'Joe' and one was in—always providing the scrutiny through the trap door proved O.K. The billiard-table was removed to make more floor space, and a raised platform erected in a corner by 'link chain and bollards' isolated it from the dance floor. Here a band performed almost nightly. The walls were repainted sea green, complete with wild waves, and depicted American 'battle-wagons' ploughing their way to glory."

The Point of View

Henry Ford once gave utterance to the aphorism "History is Bunk." While we do not for a moment subscribe to this view, there is no doubt that very often there is a wide divergence between different observers of the same event.

This is well illustrated by the following description of the Scutari Hospital, written on 1st January, 1855. It does not emanate from some bewhiskered old medical bureaucrat, jealous of his own reputation, but from a very young assistant surgeon, attached to the Horse Artillery at Sebastopol, on sick leave in Constantinople.

I went to Scutari to see the grand Hospital there, and was greatly pleased with the comfort of the men and the arrangements, and astonished at the extent and excellence of the accommodation afforded. The men are placed in long galleries with wards off them, and all are clean and well ventilated. It was the grand barracks for the Sultan's troops; along the walls are fixed large well-made racks for arms. As a barrack its arrangements are very good and deserve credit. It is the only good thing I have seen in Turkey. As an Hospital it is as nearly perfect as can be imagined, when its extent and hasty adoption for this purpose is considered. However, unfortunately at present fever of a bad type has made its appearance and has carried off many men. I did not see Miss Nightingale herself, but I met several others of the "Sympathizers" as we call them. They all dress in plain black woollen dresses with unbleached linen aprons and a scarf across the shoulder from right to left, embroidered in red thread with the words "Scutari Hospital," it gives them quite a martial uniform appearance. They go about slip-shod, and very meek-looking, but evidently proud of their office. The Medical Officers say they are very kind and do a great deal of good, but are very much in the way.

It will be remembered that Miss Nightingale's party did not arrive until November, 1854. If the scenes of squalour, neglect and misery usually associated with the barrack hospital were transformed within a few short weeks into the exemplary establishment described by young Dr. Taylor, Miss Nightingale must indeed have been a fast worker.

The R.A.M.C. Historical Museum

The Director-General of the Pakistan Army Medical Services, on behalf of the Pakistan Army Medical Corps, has presented a plaque of walnut wood beautifully carved with the P.A.M.C. badge. We all deeply appreciate this comradely act. The badges of all the Corps allied to the R.A.M.C. are now on view.

We are grateful to Miss M. G. Walker, of Lincoln, for a most interesting gift of various *personalia* which belonged to her great-uncle, A. H. Taylor, a young Assistant Surgeon attached to the Royal Horse Artillery at Sebastopol. There are some beautiful pencil sketches of his tent and other camp scenes, his folding camp mirror, his thermometer, pocket balances and also the badge and hackle from his busby, belts and other articles of uniform.

Colonel Dunning has kindly sent the Union Jack flown over his unit, the 2nd Lowland Field Ambulance. It was the last flag to fly on "W" Beach at the Dardanelles.

We have once again to acknowledge our indebtedness to the Royal United Services Institution, who have lent us the green silk camp colour found by Sir John Rogers flying outside the tent which had been occupied by Arabi Pasha at Tel-el-Kebir. Our medal collection has been greatly enriched by the addition of the medals and decorations of Colonel A. E. C. Keble, which include the C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., Order of St. John and the White Eagle of Serbia; our grateful thanks for these is due to Mrs. E. T. Martin, of Netheravon.

Perhaps the most novel acquisition we have received so far has been the film of the presentation of Lieutenant-Colonel Martin-Leake's V.C. The opportunity for showing the picture of this historic event to generations of young soldiers we owe to Mr. Rose, who presides so genially over the Globe Theatre (A.K.C.) at the R.A.M.C. Depot.

Assistant Surgeon Egerton Hale

Readers of our Autumn number will remember that we were able to publish the story of Assistant Surgeon Egerton Hale's V.C., recently presented to the Officers' Mess at Millbank. We are deeply indebted to Colonel G. C. Duggan, who has sent us a very full and dramatic picture of the medical arrangements at the Crimean War. He also sent a fragile faded document which is best described in his own words.

The letter which my grand-uncle wrote to his parents and his two brothers on 10th September must be something unique, not merely because of its first-hand description of the attack of 8th September but by reason of the fact that in narrating the part he played he was unwittingly describing deeds which earned for him one of the first Victoria Crosses when that award was instituted a year later. Here is his letter, written from the Camp of the Light Division, which so far as I am aware has never previously been published:

"It is astonishing what a difference a few days, yes, even a few hours makes in men's prospects; in fact

either way, and often alters them for the best or the contrary, and as frequently for the latter. I don't exactly allude to myself but to the whole Army—I have so much to say that I scarcely know where to begin, but I will endeavour in a few words to describe to you the eventful incidents of the last few days. By now you will know of what I intend to speak but I will mention what my regiment and myself had to do with it generally.

"On Friday night last Dr. Moorhead came in my tent and said, 'Well, Hale, are you ready to accompany the regiment tomorrow to storm the Redan?' Of course I said I was, but I expected him to tell me it was duty and not to rest merely on volunteering. He said, 'Well, then, you must go with the Regiment tomorrow, the 2nd Division and 2nd Brigade of the Light Division form the storming party, and this Brigade, 7th, 23rd, 33rd and 34th Rifles, form the reserve.' Good—now I know what I have to do. At 9 a.m. on Saturday, 8th September, we marched down 400 strong of this Regiment besides officers, and halted in the 3rd parallel—a heavy cannonade going on. In a few minutes, as it was arranged, the French attacked the Malakoff, and in a few minutes longer we saw the French flag waving over the Malakoff. Our storming party 2nd Division went at the Redan. We were sitting down in the trench, the men had been talking very loud amongst themselves, but showers of grape began to patter amongst us, and then there was a silence. We were astonished to hear the words, '7th, forward,' (I had about 20 men with stretchers and two men to be with me with bags of lint, bandages, etc.). Then we marched up the approach to the next parallel; the grape came among us and wounded about a dozen. I was among them and just the same exposed. Captain Hickie was wounded in the head; I had to dress all and by the time I had finished the Regiment had got on some distance. I ran on, the shot striking all round me until I got into the advanced trench quite a mile beyond the advance in the April bombardment. There Major Turner in a minute or two was struck down. I dressed him (hit on the head) and then part only of the Regiment got over the parapet and rushed at the Redan and then I had to dress men continually; as many were wounded in the advanced sap where we were as in the open ground, the row, the firing, the bullets, shells and round shot was awful—I was occupied until 6½ p.m. I acted at the last as a regular officer for I brought up the stragglers in different parts of the sap and keeping four saw the others go off. Sergeant Fisher came to me and said, 'There are several of our men lying wounded outside, I will go out and bring them in.' I went with him, and got at the very top of the sap and called to some of our men and got them to crawl in, but we had to carry several of them in. I then had them placed on stretchers and sent them off—all this time the Russians were firing showers of bullets on us, and many a one struck the ground close to my head—Brevet Col. Heyland had a ball right through the lower part of his leg—Capt. Hibbert also wounded—Lieut. Jones a grape shot on the chest which without penetrating caused a great swelling causing him to spit blood very copiously. Colt and Wright were killed—Turner,* Heyland,* Jones,* Hickie* and Hibbert wounded. The four with a star by their names were struck in the sap and about half of the men also. We have about 30 killed and 50 wounded—so you may see that I was exposed like all the rest. I was the only Assistant Surgeon who was exposed

as I was. Fair was in the advanced trench and two more Assistant Surgeons in the Quarries—and there were only four altogether regularly in the Assault—but only myself in the sap. Rendle, Assistant Surgeon of 62nd, was in a little bunk a long way off instead of being with his Regiment, and there he stuck all day. You have no idea what it was—if I am spared to come home then I can spend hours in telling about the 8th September, and yet we were defeated. The storming party were driven back and then they called upon the reserve. We did not expect to assault, but ours and 23rd were ordered at it, and altho' we could get in the Redan yet we could not hold it, for below it the Russians swarmed like bees and fired away very vigorously. When we were marching up the first approach, a shell came right amongst us a yard or two before me and knocked down three, taking Lever's leg off and wounding two others, and then burst. How I escaped I don't know but I prayed to God before I went to cause me to do my duty in every sense, and I felt not the least afraid—at one time there was a panic and the men came rushing back, I thought now for a smash, I drew my sword and thought I would sell my life as dearly as possible, but Hope and I shouted 'Steady men, steady' and that rallied them. Hope said afterwards to Marten that he believed I should have been the only man left with Jones, he was lying on the ground and I was cutting up his coat to get at his wound, and I remember calling to him that I would defend and stick to him and then the men rallied, but we were driven back. During Saturday night the enemy evacuated the Redan and set the town on fire."

Infants in Arms

Our Winter number of 1952 contained a claim that Major A. A. Barton, R.A.M.C., was the youngest of the "Old Contemptibles" and the youngest soldier in the field during the Great War. He enlisted at the age of fourteen and three months; eight months later he was in France as bugler in the 2nd Field Ambulance, under the command of Colonel Mitchell and went with them from Mons to Ypres. He was not sent home until 1917, still under eighteen. This has some current interest in view of the fact that a section of the Press seem to urge that it is unreasonable that the National Service soldier should be asked to serve his country in any place where he is likely to run into any kind of danger—a view, we hasten to add, emphatically repudiated by the men themselves. Major Barton is now writing his reminiscences

and we are grateful to the *Old Contemptible* for permission to quote the following extract from the first instalment:

I was fourteen years old when the summer of 1914 dawned upon us and, as have most boys of that age, I had ideals and illusions. I was a good-for-nothing little scamp out of barracks and away from the watchful eye of Bugle Major Smith, a queer mixture of a mischief-loving boy and a zealous pupil.

It was my ambition to be a hero but I realized that I was too young and therefore must wait; but I could at last see and know a hero. I had not long to wait. Soon after I enlisted I observed him marching boldly on to the parade ground of MacGrigor Barracks, Aldershot, handsome, over six feet tall, and every inch a soldier by his bearing. His Sam-Browne belt and brown boots, polished to perfection, deeply fascinated so young and admiring a recruit. He was our Depot Sergeant-Major, George Collier. Yes! Here was my hero. Some day I would wear a belt and boots polished like those, but it was many years later that my ambitions were realized. A memory of forty years ago. My hero! Our Depot Sergeant-Major, George Collier, was, and still is, held in the highest esteem by all who are privileged to know him. Colonel Collier is now in his seventy-fifth year.

The hour was approaching 8.30 on the morning of 16th August and I was standing on the square at the back of the Fire Station, North Camp, in full marching order, waiting for the order to sound "Fall-in." Zero hour arrived and we were soon drawn up in line, officers commanding sections, who were mounted on horses, taking up positions before their companies. Our horse-drawn ambulance wagons were formed up in rear of the parade, my position was two paces on the right of No. 1 of the front rank. I was overjoyed at the thoughts of what was to come. A new station! New surroundings! What a thrill for a boy at the small age of fourteen years! Colonel Mitchell, our Commanding Officer, joined the parade mounted on his chestnut horse. He looked a fine specimen of manhood. Inspections followed and then with great ceremony I was presented with two flags, the Union Jack and the Red Cross, with instructions to carry them high and proudly to the scene of the entrainment. Needless to say orders were obeyed.

It was a warm summer's morning, with a gentle breeze blowing, when my unit left their mobilization station. I distinctly remember the trouble I had with the breeze blowing the two flags. I cared little as it was certainly a proud moment to be the third person leading such a fine body of men. There was Major Greenwood in front, on his horse, followed by our Sergeant-Major, also mounted, and then myself marching proudly in my size fours. Staff Sergeant Percy (what a grand old man he is now in his seventy-eighth year) was leading "A" Section. He proved a friend to me later in all difficulties and danger.

FUER RETTUNG AUS GEFAHR (FOR SAVING FROM DANGER)

AN unusual—in fact, a unique—ceremony took place on Thursday, 12th January, 1956, at 29 Field Ambulance, Hildesheim, Germany, where a National Service soldier of the R.A.M.C. was presented with the Lebensrettungsmedaille, the highest German civil award for bravery.

It was on 28th August, 1955, that Pte. Donald Capel Goth, a non-swimmer, and under circumstances which might have daunted a strong one, saved a married couple from drowning in a roaring torrent of flood water.

At the time of the rescue, a severe and exceptional thunderstorm had flooded the valleys near Eschershausen, and the Germans, a middle-aged man and his wife, with their motor-cycle, were swept off the road into a raging torrent by the flood water.

Although they disappeared immediately, Pte. Goth continued his search along the river bank in the gathering darkness in appalling weather conditions. Eventually his determination and courage were rewarded and, although he cannot swim, he plunged into the flood and brought out the wife. Having laid her on high ground, he then went back into the water to bring out the husband, who was clinging to a submerged fence post, completely exhausted.

He then brought them back over the flooded fields to safety.

There is no doubt that, by his dogged persistence and refusal to give in, Pte. Goth saved both lives at no small risk to his own.

At a parade of 29 Field Ambulance, held specially for the occasion, after the citation had been read by the C.O., Lieut.-Colonel J. N. Threlfall, Pte. Goth was presented with the medal by the Regierungs-Praesident, Dr. Suermann, who said: "It is to me a great honour and a great joy to be able to decorate, on behalf of the Niedersaechsische Minister-Praesident, a soldier of the British Army with the Remembrance Medal for the Recovery from Danger to life."

The presentation was followed by a short address by the A.D.M.S., 11th Armoured Division, Colonel W. M. Oxley, who said that the



Pte. Goth, R.A.M.C., receives the highest German award for bravery

Pte. D. C. Goth (R.A.M.C.), Mr. Vaughan (S.L.O.), Dr. Suermann, Colonel W. M. Oxley, Dr. Haring.

12th January was a memorable day for Pte. Goth as he would never forget the day he received this well-merited award; it was a significant day for the 29th Field Ambulance and for the R.A.M.C., as it was upon deeds of this nature that the history and tradition of the Corps had been built. He continued to say that the day was also an important one for us all as on such deeds is true international friendship built; he hoped that Pte. Goth's heroism would be a never-forgotten example for us all to follow.

Dr. Suermann took the salute as the unit marched past to the music of the band of the Royal Berkshire Regiment.

After the parade, a short reception was held in the Officers' Mess for the many German notables and press reporters, and officers from the Garrison, at which Pte. Goth was the guest of honour. Pte. Goth, who comes from Cumberland and has now returned to civil life, is the first member of the British Forces to have received this award.

The event has been given a great deal of publicity in the German press and it is felt that local Anglo-German relations will greatly benefit from it.

NINE DAYS' WONDER

BY CLAUDE HEYWOOD
(Late Sergeant, R.A.M.C.)

I CAME home from the First World War in 1917 and after six weeks' rest at Blackpool I was sent for general duty to a hospital in the south. This hospital was run by a dear old Colonel who had spent most of his life in India. He was a grand old boy as long as everything went smoothly, but he had a perfect horror of things going wrong.

You could always tell when the storm cones were being hoisted, for he would come out of his office and stand for long periods glowering on the mat outside; when that happened it was just a case of keeping out of sight.

We, attachments from overseas, were looked upon as outsiders by the home service staff and were not very successful in breaking the ice. My own job was a fairly responsible one which consisted in taking men discharged from the Army and handing them over to various convalescent camps.

One fine morning I came round to collect my patients and transfer documents to take to a hospital near St. Albans.

I looked down the corridor and there was the old man firmly planted on the mat. I quickly doubled into the office, where Wind was Vertical and the staff running around like cats on hot bricks. A patient had been admitted apparently suffering from a skin complaint which the M.O. had later diagnosed as small-pox. The old man reacted like an atom bomb and at once ordered the Sergeant-Major to get an ambulance and take the patient to the Isolation Hospital.

In the meantime I had set off for St. Albans with my patients, whom I duly handed over. Having obtained a receipt, we started back for home. Snow was on the ground and it was bitterly cold. Now just near to Tring is a cosy little pub, standing back off the road, where we often used to call to obtain a spot of central heating for our homeward journey. On this occasion we were surprised to find another ambulance waiting outside. I said to my two pals, the driver and escort, "Bet your life that is the Sergeant-Major coming back from the Isolation Hospital. Now for a spot of good clean fun. Here's five bob each. I will order the first round of double rum hot, then each of you will do the same. The S.M. cannot very well avoid standing his turn; that makes four

doubles and there should be interesting developments when he reports back to the Colonel."

Everything went according to plan, but after about half an hour I began to feel the heat and went outside for a breath of fresh air. Outside the frosty cold air hit me over the head as though I had been pole-axed. I dimly saw some ambulances in front of me and realized that I should collapse on the ground if I could not reach them. I just managed to clamber in at the back, crawl on to a stretcher, and cover myself with blankets before I became dead to the world.

For over an hour my companions scoured the countryside trying to find me; they finally gave it up as a bad job and drove home.

On arrival the S.M. reported to the Colonel and was told to take the ambulance to the disinfectant and stay with it until the vehicle and all its contents had been thoroughly disinfected. The N.C.O. in charge of disinfection was told to get on with the job, the S.M. meanwhile withdrawing to the porch to have a quiet smoke and to cogitate on the evening's events.

The night was black as pitch when the N.C.O. groped into the back of the ambulance. The first thing he felt was a pair of boots! Panic-stricken, he rushed up to the S.M. "Are you quite sure you left the patient at the Isolation Hospital?" he asked. With various verbal embellishments, the S.M. assured him this was so and to his intense relief (having in mind his evening's indiscretions at Tring) was able to produce a receipt, duly signed. "Then you had better come and see for yourself," retorted the N.C.O., for there was I, dead to the world, snugly wrapped in a small-pox patient's blankets!

Now the S.M. was an Irishman and a good Catholic and he prayed to St. Patrick and all the Saints as they hauled me out of the ambulance, wrapped me in a clean blanket and put me on another stretcher. They tried every trick they knew in an effort to revive me, but I was out to the wide.

They held a council of war and the outlook was black indeed!

They could not then take me back to the billet as this was right opposite the old man's house, where the lights were still burning as he was waiting up for the final report. To take me

into the hospital would mean a report and inquiry, so they covered me up and hoped for the best until the lights went out to show the Colonel had gone to bed.

The S.M. then went round to seek the advice of a medical officer and brought him round to view the body. He thought it likely that the hot rum circulating around might have been too much for the small-pox germs, and it was decided to keep quiet about it and keep an eye on me for the next nine days. Oh yes! they got me to bed in my billet and undressed me, so I am told, with the greatest care.

The next morning when I woke up about seven o'clock my room mate said, "What were you up to last night? They had the hell of a job getting you into bed." "My dear boy," I replied, "I have had a most peaceful sleep and have not the slightest knowledge of anything that happened last night."

I got up, dressed and shaved and went to breakfast, feeling on top of the world. As I entered the mess room I noticed the S.M. never

took his eyes off me; he fixed me with a steady gaze and never said a word. I met him later on outside the ward and, oddly enough, he asked me how I felt. "Quite O.K.," I replied, and murmuring "that's fine," off he went.

An hour or two later he was again asking after my health, and went away breathing a sigh of relief when I told him I was quite all right. It is not usual for Sergeant-Majors to take such deep concern over the health of the troops, and my amazement grew as this curious conversation was repeated every time we met during the next nine days.

On the ninth day I reported to the S.M. that I proposed going sick that morning. He was having his breakfast at the time and threw down his knife and fork with the agonized cry, "*I knew it, I knew it; it was too good to last.*"

Completely mystified at this strange outburst, I quietly informed him that this was the morning when Captain Bouer was going to remove an ingrowing toe-nail which had been causing me a deal of trouble.

COMING EVENTS

IN previous years we have tried to give our readers a comprehensive review of the various sporting and social events arranged for the summer months. This year arrangements do not appear to be sufficiently advanced to permit of this and we are compelled to confine ourselves to such information as we have been able to collect by sending-in day.

R.A.M.C. and R.A.D.C.

Wednesday, 20th June

Heats, Corps Sports; R.A.M.C. and R.A.D.C. Swimming Gala at Aldershot District Baths, Queen's Avenue, at 6.30 p.m., followed by buffet supper for officers at McGrigor Mess (uniform or dinner jackets). Applications for tickets to Hon. Secretary, Swimming Gala, Depot and T.E., R.A.D.C., Connaught Barracks, Aldershot.

Thursday, 21st June

R.A.M.C. and R.A.D.C. Sports, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, 2 p.m. Applications and inquiries to Sports Secretary, Queen Elizabeth Barracks (Tel. Fleet 971, Ext. 23) Special buses from Aldershot Station, 2.5 and 2.15 p.m., returning from 5.45 p.m. onwards. There is ample parking space for picnics. Light refreshments available at lunch time.

Friday, 22nd June

R.A.M.C. Officers' "At Home" at Headquarters' Mess, Millbank (Regular Officers, past and present, and families), 4 to 6 p.m. Tickets, for which there is no charge, from Hon. Secretary, R.A.M.C. Mess, Millbank, London, S.W.1. Morning dress or lounge suit.

R.A.M.C. Officers' Annual Dinner (Regular Officers, past and present), Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn, 7.30 for 8 p.m. (evening dress with decorations or dinner jackets with miniatures). Those wishing to dine together should notify the Hon. Secretary. Applications for tickets with remittance of £1 10s. should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, R.A.M.C. Mess, Millbank.

Sunday, 24th June

Church Parades. Details of the parades at the R.A.M.C. Depot will be found under "Association Notes."

Cricket. R.A.M.C. Depot v. R.A.M.C., Aldershot District, at Queen Elizabeth Barracks.

Monday, 25th June

Summer Meeting, R.A.M.C. Golfing Society and R.A.M.C. Ladies' Golfing Society. Morning and afternoon rounds. Particulars from Major-General E. B. Marsh, 14 Orchard Rise, Kingston Hill, Surrey (Malden 8688), and Mrs. R. Murphy, Hastings House, Tidworth, Hants (Tidworth 2246).

Tuesday, 26th June

Cricket. R.A.M.C. v. United Hospitals at Queen Elizabeth Barracks.
Officers' Ball at Officers' Mess, Keogh Barracks, Ash Vale, 9 p.m. Tickets from Hon. Secretary, R.A.M.C. Officers' Ball Committee, Keogh Barracks (evening dress, dinner jacket or uniform). Open to all officers and their friends.

Friday, 13th July

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will visit the R.A.M.C. Depot, when it is hoped that she will have an opportunity of meeting a representative cross-section of all ranks of the R.A.M.C. and families. Further details will be announced through the usual administrative channels.

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

Wednesday, 20th June

R.A.M.C. and R.A.D.C. Swimming Gala includes two events open to Q.A.R.A.N.C., the Q.A. Swimming Challenge Cup, presented by Dame Anne Thompson for the officers' race, and the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Challenge Cup for other ranks.

Wednesday, 27th June

Corps Sports and Medforth Cup Tennis finals at the Depot and T.E., Q.A.R.A.N.C.

Saturday, 30th June

Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association Reunion at the Hyde Park Hotel.

SPORTS REVIEW

THE sixth Annual General Meeting of the R.A.M.C. Sports Union was held last November. Since the formation in January, 1949, the Union has proved a tremendous help in the playing of our inter-company competitions. In the major games, soccer and cricket, nearly all R.A.M.C. companies compete, and teams travelling over fifty miles are helped financially from Union funds. Before this only a few companies entered outside the Southern Command. Now we have 13 Company (Cowglen) and 15 Company (Waringfield) as regular entries. It therefore achieves its aim of promoting sport within the Corps in the United Kingdom. It has also raised the standard of Corps representative teams and honoured our outstanding sportsmen with the award of Corps Colours.

To continue this good work, additional financial help is necessary, and with this view it was agreed at the Annual General Meeting that all R.A.M.C. Officers serving in U.K. would contribute 1s. per month and W.Os. and Sergeants 6d. per month; the Corporals and Privates at 2d. per month from P.R.I. funds. The extra funds will give the Sports Union a good working margin, and it is hoped to extend financial help to all companies who have to travel in these competitions.

Association Football

In the Army Cup Competition, No. 1 Company, Aldershot, and the Depot R.A.M.C. were the only entries from the R.A.M.C. units. No. 1 Company won their first round and then fell

in the second round. The Depot lost to the R.A.P.C. in the third round. A few years ago we had five teams competing in the Army Cup—namely, R.A.M.C., Aldershot District; R.A.M.C., London District; No. 19 Company, Chester; No. 15 Company, Waringfield; and the Depot. We should like to see a similar number of entries in 1956-7. For the record, R.A.M.C., London District, reached the fourth round in 1951.

The Harwood and Irvine Cups are again producing keen competition between companies. The finalists in the Irvine Cup are H.Q. Company, Depot R.A.M.C. and No. 1 Company, R.A.M.C. The Harwood Cup has now reached the Zone final stage.

Rugby

As previously recorded in stop press last issue, the Depot lost in the fifth round of the Army Cup to 32 Assault Bn., R.E., by 8 points to six. It came as a big shock to our team (the holders), who were well tipped to retain the trophy, and we had great hopes of doing it again.

Inter-Corps Rugby: R.A.M.C. 38 pts.; R.A.S.C. 5 pts.; R.A.M.C. 11 pts., R.A.O.C. 3 pts.

The following represented the R.A.M.C., U.K.: Cpl. Rumney, Sgt. Regan, Pte. Broatch, Pte. Hunt, Capt. Sullivan, Capt. Maeckelberghe, Lieut. Campbell, Pte. Carter, Lieut. Fairweather, Lieut. Robbie, 2/Lieut. Scott, Capt. Crossley, Lieut. Lewis, Sgt. Wakeford and Sgt. James.

We congratulate Lieut. N. M. Campbell on being selected to play for Scotland versus France and again versus Wales.

Hockey

The Depot team entered the Army Cup and was beaten in the second round. They are doing well in the Aldershot District Cup and we hope to record good progress in our next issue. The Marrable Cup was not competed for this season as the number of entries was too small to justify a competition. We do hope companies will endeavour to encourage and facilitate the playing of this sport and so help us to run the competition next season.

Cross-Country Running

The Depot team won the Aldershot District Cross-Country Championships from a field of 24 teams, and now go forward to the Southern Command Championships.

Cricket

At the Annual General Meeting it was agreed that the Bostock Cup Competition will now be decided on one innings of 35 overs each team. This should speed up the completion of matches and ensure a result at the first meeting, providing the weather is favourable.

Note

In the past, Sports Review has been mainly confined to the sporting activities of the respective R.A.M.C., R.A.D.C. and Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depots.

It is brought to your notice that this column is open to all Medical Services Units at home and overseas, and we would gladly welcome news of Corps interest.

Sport in the Army

We are grateful to General Sir George Erskine, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., who has kindly allowed us to quote from a letter he recently circulated on this much discussed topic, and are sure that this news, so cogently put forward, will find an echo in the minds of our readers.

"I should like to make clear my attitude to sport so that in this Command we can follow a general policy.

"The Army has always encouraged sport of all kinds because it provides good and healthy exercise and is a welcome relaxation. Different forms of sport have their different virtues and we should not favour one sport more than another, although individual forms of sport cannot expect the same official support as team events.

"I like to see people play hard and be skilful. We shall not get a high standard unless we encourage the first-class player and the skilled performer. This is not professionalism but common sense. At the same time I want as many people as possible to take part in games, including those that are of somewhat long duration such as cricket, and not just watch. I am not interested in units whose aim is only to produce a team of gladiators. Well organized games for all is the hall mark of a well-run unit. Youngsters must be taught and a high standard of performance and real enthusiasm must be the aim. It is perfectly right to be a good loser, but it is better to be a good winner, and it is important that we should encourage a desire and determination to win—that is good military training.

"No Commanding Officer should feel he is

doing anything unmilitary or wrong in giving concessions to assist those who are chosen to represent their Regiment, District, Command or the Army. There are few exercises or parades which will suffer by the absence of a few individuals. At the same time 'concessions' will not cover drafting. It is quite wrong that any soldier should avoid his fair share of overseas service because he is required to 'pack' a team.

"I want Rifle Shooting in the competitive field looked upon as a sport. I hope that as many as possible will enter for the various A.R.A. central and decentralized events. Field sports which are more the province of the officer are to be encouraged. Expense places some limit on these, but often co-operative efforts can lighten the expense. Young officers should be encouraged to shoot and be taught to be safe shots by those who know how to handle a gun. Those who like to have their fun with a horse also have my encouragement.

"The opportunities for sport in the Army are immense and I want to see them used to the full."

LATE NEWS

RUGBY

Corps Matches.—R.E.M.E., 5 pts.; R.A.M.C., 0. R.A.M.C., 11 pts.; R.A.O.C., 3 pts.

Southern Command Cup, final: R.A.M.C. Depot, 3 pts; 32 Asst. Bn. R.E., 0.

Aldershot District Cup, final: R.A.M.C. Depot, 22 pts.; 2 Trg. Bn. R.A.S.C., 3 pts.

Harris Cup, final: "F" Company, R.A.M.C. Depot, 17 pts.; No. 12 Company, 3 pts.

ASSOCIATION

Corps Match: R.A.M.C., 3; R.E.M.E., 0.

Harwood Cup, final: No. 1 Company, 2; No. 4 Company, 1.

Irvine Cup, final: H.Q. Company, R.A.M.C. Depot, 4; No. 1 Company, 1.

BOXING

Bateman Cup, final: "D" Company, R.A.M.C. Depot, 17 pts.; H.Q. Company, R.A.M.C. Depot, 16 pts.

Individual Championships.—*Bantam*: Pte. Lynch, "F" Company. *Feather*: Pte. Woodburn, 15 Company. *Light*: Pte. Ward, "B" Company. *Light welter*: Cpl. Hignett, 4 Company. *Welter*: Pte. Booker, H.Q. Company. *Light Middle*: Pte. Gormley, "C" Company. *Middle*: Pte. Lee, 4 Company. *Light Heavy*: Cpl. King, H.Q. Company. *Heavy*: Pte. Carnie, "C" Company.

HOCKEY

Corps Match: R.A.O.C., 2; R.A.M.C., 2.

THE AMAZING CASE OF SERGEANT SHEARER

There must be many veterans of the First World War who can remember wild rumours flying around concerning the amazing R.A.M.C. Sergeant who succeeded in bamboozling Army commanders and consulting surgeons purely from devilment and with no idea of financial gain. One story told how he managed to inject a stiff dose of strychnine into his rabbits just before their final run into his death ray. Another was that his final downfall began when a beautiful X-ray picture of a cerebral tumour was recognized as an illustration from Rose and Carless's "Surgery." We are most grateful to Colonel Charles, who at long last is able to tell us the true story at first hand.

I SUPPOSE the Shearer Case was one of the most fantastic hoaxes that have ever been perpetrated. Fantastic, because of the very simplicity of the deception which only succeeded, to a point, due to the incredible and very naive gullibility of some of the principals concerned.

The affair occurred at 21 C.C.S., situated near Corbie on the Somme, in the years 1916-17. The O.C. was Lieut.-Colonel R. W. Clements, the Surgeon Capt. Bell, and the Quartermaster, Capt. Jackson. I was acting as Company Officer as well as Dental Officer.

The Somme push was over and our C.C.S. was by then well behind the lines, and dealing mostly with sick cases.

We had one surgical ward, which was in the circumstances a model, due to the quiet efficiency of the wardmaster, a Sgt. Shearer. He was supposed to be Canadian; quiet, very un-

assuming, most intelligent in conversation and, as I said above, very efficient.

One day he asked the C.O. if he could take some X-ray photographs, a rather surprising request as we had no X-ray apparatus.

The C.O. said he did not mind what he did as long as it did not cost the public any money and did not inconvenience the patients. Sgt. Shearer replied that all he wanted was an E.P. tent in the grounds just behind the Surgical Ward. Colonel Clements gave permission for the tent, but said he was not going to have patients carted about the grounds, especially in cold weather. Sgt. Shearer, however, assured the Colonel that this would not be necessary as he would take the photos by wireless.

I knew Colonel Clements very well, and had a great admiration for his efficiency and a keen appreciation of his delightful Irish wit. I am certain that he thought Shearer was quite

"balmy," but he was a first-class wardmaster, well above the average, and as long as he continued as such, Colonel Clements was willing to humour any idiosyncrasies, and so the tent was erected.

We had almost forgotten about this craze, when one day Shearer asked Capt. Bell if he could take an X-ray of a patient who was admitted with query brain abscess.

Here I would explain that Capt. Bell, our surgeon, was a real dour Scot, a man of very definite opinions, which he mostly kept to himself. Throughout the whole period I never heard him express any opinion on the Shearer episode. I gained the impression that, as long as it did not interfere with his surgical work, as long as Shearer carried out his ward duties efficiently, Bell took no interest in the affair.

Permission was given.

Now it was a curious fact that, in all cases, we were never shown a negative, but a positive, which had the appearance of a pastel drawing. The resultant photo was a fairly accurate representation of the actual condition as discovered after operation. The next case was one of query appendix, and again the resultant photo was a very accurate presentation of the situation.

By this time the Consultant Surgeon to the Army, Sir Antony Bowlby, had become interested and he gave considerable encouragement to further experiments.

One may well imagine that the claims made by Sgt. Shearer were of such a nature that speculation was rife as to future developments. Case succeeded case, and in the progress the enthusiasm of Sir Antony Bowlby increased.

By this time news of this wonderful invention had spread beyond the confines of the C.C.S. and had reached French Medical Headquarters.

Frequent visits were paid to the C.C.S. by French Medical Officers. I gather that they were somewhat sceptical and thought that Shearer was a spy.

By this time Shearer's influence in higher circles was being felt, and this was well illustrated by his request that the French should be asked to discontinue their visits as they interfered with his work. The request was granted and the visits ceased. The French authorities had, however, taken the matter up with their G.H.Q., insisting that Shearer was a spy. As a result one of our few Armoured Car Columns was sent down and patrolled in the vicinity of the Hospital for some time, but with negative results.

Shearer's next move was more dramatic. One morning he approached the Quartermaster and showed him a photo of those aeroplanes at the tail of a Zeppelin. He said he had taken it the night before. The Quartermaster took the photo straight to the Colonel. He decided that this was quite out of his line and sent it on to Army H.Q.

Then the wires did begin to hum and to some purpose. It happened that, on the night in question, a Zeppelin had passed over Corbie, escorted by aircraft. The route was an unusual one and had puzzled the Staff: they doubted the accuracy of the information. Shearer had provided the proof.

We were soon invaded by Staff Officers of all descriptions, and what had been regarded as a matter of medical interest only became a subject of first-class military importance.

It was then decided that Shearer should be sent home to patent his invention and, on his return, he was gazetted Captain.

The next step was even more dramatic.

Shearer invented a death ray which was demonstrated to several important people. The victims were usually rabbits. This gave rise to considerable argument. Should Shearer be allowed to develop his "great medical invention," or should he elaborate his death ray? I heard many senior officers who visited the C.C.S. declare that in three months we would eliminate the Germans and without a shot being fired, so deeply had Shearer impressed people with his "discoveries." The end result was that the Medical Services gracefully gave way in favour of the more potent military weapon of the death ray.

Intelligence now moved in and an officer was attached to the C.C.S. to work with Shearer.

For the following development of the case I am indebted to the late Colonel R. W. Clements, the C.O. at the time, who gave me a very full account of the subsequent history. A laboratory was set up in a temporary building at St. Pol.

One must not assume that the whole Medical Service fell for Shearer; far from it. There was most pungent criticism from the Base. This grew so strong that it was eventually decided to take the matter up with Scotland Yard.

It must be remembered that, apart from the rank of Temporary Captain, Shearer had made no financial gain, nor had he asked for any reward. It would seem that he was working purely for fame—or was it notoriety?

Faced with these facts, Scotland Yard said it might be one of three people with the type of mentality capable of carrying out such an elaborate hoax, purely for the sake of notoriety. On their photos being shown, Shearer was recognized as one of them. Consequently an Inspector from Scotland Yard came out to St. Pol and was attached to the Hospital as Medical Orderly so as to observe Shearer without rousing any suspicion.

In the meantime arrangements had been made for Sir Douglas Haig to see a demonstration of the "death ray." This was to be at 1.30 p.m. on a fixed day. The Commander-in-Chief was delayed *en route* and did not arrive till much later. The rabbit, however, died at 1.30 p.m.

Shearer was subsequently placed under arrest, court-martialled and sentenced to two years' imprisonment (I am not quite certain of the period). It was, however, reduced to six months. I heard that later, on release, he went into the infantry and was killed in action.

What, then, was this wonderful invention? The apparatus consisted solely of an old recording instrument of the cylinder variety. This was suitably elaborated to increase the deception.

I do not attempt to give any further explanation, but would remind anyone who scoffs at those who believed in Shearer that often the simpler the hoax, the greater the fallibility. For comparison we may well remember the Russian reinforcements that passed through England with snow on their boots.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we record the following deaths in the Army Medical Services.

ANDERSON.—Lieut.-Colonel Robert Alex Anderson died at the King George V Hospital, Durban, on 2nd April, 1955. He retired in 1946 and settled in South Africa in 1950. He was Medical Officer of Health for Pinetown and Westville, Durban, until a few weeks before his death. We extend our sympathy to his widow.

BULL.—On 24th January, 1956, Lieut.-Colonel Charles Edward Bull, O.B.E., D.C.M., M.S.M., R.A.M.C. (retired). Lieut.-Colonel Bull was born on 4th September, 1890, and enlisted in the R.A.M.C. at the age of 14 years and 11 months. He came on man's service after three years as a bugler. He became a Sergeant-Major during the Great War, when he was for three years Chief Clerk to the D.M.S., Fourth Army. He was commissioned as Quartermaster in 1933.

In the First World War he was with the B.E.F. in a field ambulance on 18th August, 1914, and remained on active service abroad until 1919. He served in India in 1925 and 1926 and later, in 1933, in Egypt. It was from here he was recalled by General Hartigan in 1936 for a special appointment at the War Office. All his service he was a well-known and greatly beloved figure both at work and at play. He was a qualified instructor in physical training and a sprinter in his younger days. His prowess as a football referee is well known. He became a Lieut.-Colonel in 1946 and retired on account of disability in 1952.

In addition to the O.B.E., D.C.M., the M.S.M., the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and his war medals, he was an officer (brother) of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and held the French *Medaille d'Honneur avec Glaives en Argent*, and the *Croix Militaire (premiere classe)* of Belgium, and had been mentioned in despatches.

Lieut.-General Sir Alexander Hood, G.B.E., K.C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., writes:

"The news of the death of Lieut.-Colonel Charles

Bull will bring to many who served with him in the Corps a deep sense of personal loss. In his younger days a well-known sportsman and later a referee, his alert dapper figure on the field was familiar to the



Lieut.-Colonel C. E. Bull, O.B.E., D.C.M.

Corps. Later, as personal Assistant to a succession of Directors-General during the years preceding the last war and throughout its duration, he became one of the best known officers in the Corps. He was my personal assistant for over six years and no one could have had a more loyal or wiser counsellor. No task was too small or too big for him to undertake if it helped the work in hand, the Corps, or the D.G. His knowledge of the ways of the War Office was devious and extensive and, including, as it did, its personalities and subterranean channels, quite invaluable. Punctual, suave and tactful, with a keen sense of humour, he was entirely devoted to the Corps, its work and its welfare. So has passed a very gallant officer and a good friend, mourned and regretted but never forgotten."

From Lieut.-General Sir Neil Cantlie, K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.S.:

"In the death after a long illness of Lieut.-Colonel Charles Bull the Corps has lost an officer of outstanding character and ability. He was my personal assistant when I was Director-General from 1948 to 1952, and had acted beforehand in the same capacity to Lieut.-General Sir Alexander Hood. Bull had a great store of knowledge for procedure and administration, and when I came to the War Office for the first time his experience and advice were of great assistance to me and helped me to avoid the pitfalls into which otherwise I might have fallen. The correct wording for a telegram of birthday wishes to our Colonel-in-Chief; the occasions on which to attend the meetings of the Army Council; the procedure to approach the Secretary of State; the correct way to wear an order or decoration; on such matters as these Charlie Bull knew all the answers. But much more than this, Bull, with his long experience in the War Office, gave sound advice on matters of general policy. He accompanied me on a tour of inspection in Germany and he was a genial and cheerful companion who looked after my interests with a jealous eye.

"Although we had never met until I became Director-General, I know that in his youth Bull was a great footballer and sportsman and was a member of the Corps team which in 1919-20, 1920-21 won the Army Cup. I know others will be able to speak about these earlier days much better than I can.

"At Corps gatherings and dinners Charlie Bull was a popular and well-loved figure. I think there were very few of the officers' dinners which he failed to attend. Slim and upright, he was always immaculately turned out and it was a pleasure to see him on these occasions.

"He loved the Corps and its traditions, and I can give no greater praise than to say he was a worthy representative of the best type of non-medical officer.

"I have lost a personal friend and the Corps an outstanding and respected officer.

"Our deepest sympathy will go out to Mrs. Bull and her family in their great loss."

From Major J. Ford, R.A.M.C. (retired):

"By the passing of Charles Bull the Corps has lost one of its great characters. His long period of service at the War Office, as P.A. to the Director-General, brought him in touch with most of the officers of the Corps, and his name was legend to pre-war soldiers. He had an earnest, fearless and enthusiastic mind for the job in hand, giving of his best at all times. An Army football referee, he served on the Council of

Army Referees for some years. Those of us who knew him personally were shocked when we first heard of the tragic illness which was the beginning of the final chapter of his life, for it was hard to imagine that such an alert and active person should, so soon after his leaving the Corps, be unable to enjoy the peaceful retirement he so richly deserved. Our sympathy goes to his widow and family."

FOSTER.—On 13th January, 1956, at the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Lieut.-Colonel John George Foster, O.B.E., M.B., R.A.M.C. (retired).

He was born in Athlone on 30th May, 1872, and qualified in Dublin in 1896. He was commissioned in the R.A.M.C. in April, 1900, and retired in 1927.

He saw service in the South African War, 1900-1902, and took part in operations in Cape Colony, Orange River Colony and Transvaal, receiving the Queen's Medal with three clasps and the King's Medal with two clasps.

During the Great War he was in Mesopotamia from 1914 until 1921, including the battle of Shaiba (12th-14th April, 1915).

He was three times mentioned in despatches, twice in 1916 and once in 1920. He was given the brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 1916 and awarded the O.B.E. in 1919. He became an officer of the Order of St. John in 1930.



Lieut.-Colonel J. G. Foster, O.B.E., M.B.

The name of "Daddy" Foster has for generations been known and loved among all ranks of the R.A.M.C. He was one of those rare characters who become a legend during their own lifetime, and it is probably true to say that his greatest work was accomplished after his years on the active list were over.

It was in 1929 that he took over from Colonel Knaggs the secretaryship of our various R.A.M.C. charitable funds, and he carried on this work for 19 years until he was forced by ill health to retire. During the Second World War, no amount of bombs or doodle-bugs could prevent his daily visit to the office, and a measure of the high esteem in which he was held was shown by the fact that on his retirement the late Sir Percy Tomlinson, then Colonel Commandant, obtained the signatures of every living medical general (there were about sixty of them) and had them inscribed on a presentation silver salver. He was a great expert in military medals and decorations, especially those won by men of his own Service. Many cases on the walls of the R.A.M.C. Mess at Millbank testify to his generosity, and he recently presented his magnificent private collection to the R.A.M.C. Historical Museum.

In generations to come his name is likely to be perpetuated as the author of "Foster's Roll." The Army Medical Service is almost certainly unique in possessing a nominal roll (with biographical details) of Army doctors from 1660 onwards: Colonel Peterkin's Roll (1660-1727), Colonel Johnston's Roll (1727-1898) and Colonel Foster's Roll (1898-1933). A glance through Colonel Foster's manuscripts shows the monumental amount of work he did in compiling the roll, entailing as it does closely following the life history of every R.A.M.C. officer, serving or retired, until his death.

For those of the older generation it is difficult to think of our corps without Colonel Foster in the background, always ready to help out of his vast experience, but no tribute that we can pay can match the characteristic and gracious gesture of our Colonel-in-Chief, who summoned him to a special audience at Buckingham Palace to thank him on behalf of all ranks of the Corps and their families for the magnificent work he had done.

KING.—At Malpas, Cheshire, on Friday, 13th January, 1956. Mr. Henry Allen King, ex-W.O., R.A.D.C., age 46, was tragically killed when his car collided with a lorry.

"Akker," as he was affectionately known, was a native of Sandown, Isle of Wight, and served for 25 years in the R.A.D.C.

He was keenly interested in amateur dramatics. Before taking over the Vaults at Malpas he was landlord of the White Hart at Ellesmere.

Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, Agnes, and his sons.

LUCAS.—On 5th February, 1956, at Leeds Infirmary, Brigadier Reginald Hutchinson Lucas, C.B.E., M.C. (retired), of Canterbury.

Brigadier Lucas left the R.A.M.C. some 25 years ago and settled in Canterbury, where, a friend writes, he soon proved himself the perfect family doctor. He was awarded the O.B.E. and M.C. in the First World War; he returned to the Army in the Second World War, being awarded the C.B.E.

POWER.—At Windsor on 16th February, 1956, Colonel Pierce Power, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., late R.A.M.C. (retired).

The elder son of the late Francis Hodder Power, of Roskeen Mallow, County Cork, Colonel Power studied at Queen's College, Cork, and qualified at the Royal University of Ireland in 1904. He joined the R.A.M.C. the following year. A large part of his service was spent abroad. He was in Jamaica at the time of the great earthquake of 1907. He did two tours in India, where he held many important appointments during the First World War. He later served in the Army of the Rhine and was promoted Colonel in 1935.

He retired in 1936 and was almost at once re-employed in medical charge of the Guards at Windsor. This appointment he held almost continuously until 1954 and for many periods he was employed as Officer Commanding the Household Cavalry Hospital at Windsor.

He was in every sense a fine sportsman, a first-class horseman, a good shot and a keen fisherman, and our sincere sympathy goes out to his widow.

STROUD.—Major John Patrick Stroud, M.B.E., R.A.M.C., who died in London on 23rd January, 1956, was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, on 9th June, 1904. He joined the R.A.M.C. in October, 1919, and served in the ranks until being commissioned in January, 1940.

We have received the following appreciation from Colonel J. H. J. Crosse:

"When one meets the tradition of three generations in the Corps, coupled with energy, vitality and a knack of making friends wherever he went, you have an officer who is out of the ordinary. Such a man was Jack Stroud. Many will recall his distinguished military career, what he did and how well his M.B.E. was deserved, and of his horticultural plans on retirement, but in reciting these bare bones from the Army Gradation List one is apt to lose sight of the tremendous character of Jack Stroud that we all know and of the many other reasons which made him such a valued friend of us all."

We extend our sympathy to his widow, his daughter, his son serving with the R.A.F. and to his brother still serving in the Corps.

SCOTT WILLIAMS.—On 10th January, 1956, Major Augustus Scott Williams, D.S.O., R.A.M.C. (retired), aged 77.

YORKE.—On 9th January, 1956, Major Harold Yorke, M.C., R.A.M.C. (retired).

NOTES FROM THE STATIONS

R. A. M. C. Depot

ALTHOUGH the year is yet young, we are already turning our thoughts actively to Corps Week and Corps Sports. We hope we shall see the usual bumper numbers of friends among both those still serving and our ex-service comrades. We ask that they make particular note of the various function dates published in this issue and engage them in their diaries now.

We refrain from boring readers with details of our Christmas parties, etc., which are now history rather than news, but one feature of all our social gatherings which always gives us pleasure is the visiting by ex-service friends. They vary from retired long-service officers and N.C.Os. to the still quite young ex-national service N.C.Os. and men.

We are glad to say our Amateur Dramatic Society still flourishes, and in December they treated us to "Shop at Sly Corner," a three act thriller by Edward Percy. W.O.I Croft was excellent as Descius Heiss, the antique dealer who was blackmailed by Archie Fellows, played by Cpl. Holdsworth, who was eventually murdered by his victim. Sgt. Roost took the role of Corder Morris, a burglar, and Robert Graham the doctor, and Heiss's daughter was well played by Pte. Baker.

Mrs. Katherine Tilly as Heiss's sister, Mrs. Edith Dickason as the voluble ever-ailing char, Mrs. Pat Lane as Joan Deal and Miss Ruby Silburn as Margaret Heiss, all gave an excellent performance in characters not easy to portray.

The play was produced by Major Cargill and Pte. Gordon. 2/Lieut. Forster arranged the very excellent stage set and decor.

It was an excellent performance which went through smoothly under the stage arrangement of Q.M.S.I. Dickason, A.P.T.C.

Another item of Depot pastimes which proved most popular was an Indoor Hockey League, organized by Major Scott with the assistance of his Orderly Room Clerks. It was a weekly session in evenings. The games were only six minutes each way, and this appeared quite enough to produce a good warming up even on a cold evening. It is a fast and vigorous game, with simple rules, and anyone can soon get in the game. H.Q. Company eventually won the cup, which was presented by Mrs. Benson.

Any unit who has a gym or large floor space, can borrow a few hockey sticks, make a puck

and a couple of goal nets, and rig up a boundary of forms or boxes, can derive great benefit at no expense.

We are playing plenty of soccer and rugby even if we are out of the Cup fixtures, and our hockey team is going strong. We still run inter-company soccer. Almost everyone has to turn out when the two opposing companies each turn out seven teams at once in a ding-dong battle of half-hour each way. Some can play soccer, some cannot, but they must all have a go. There is keen competition for the League Shield.

Our cross-country team is doing as well if not better than any of our sporting teams again this year. They brought home the Aldershot District Large Units Shield in January, when they romped home to an easy win by only 111 points against the second team with 273 points. They go forward into the Command Championship as we submit this article. We hope the stop press item will announce a victory, and we may even yet have an Army Cup again this year.

Depot and Training Establishment R.A.D.C.

SINCE we last appeared in print the main item of news has been our inaugural Annual Rifle Meeting. This was a great success and, considering the adverse weather conditions, some excellent scores were returned. The chief prize, a silver bowl kindly presented for annual competition by Colonel W. B. Purnell, late R.A.D.C., was won by Cpl. Chowne. The other results were: Officers: 1st, Major Mackie; 2nd, Lieut. Jefferson. W.Os. and Sergeants: 1st, S./Sgt. Hopton; 2nd, Sgt. Bramley. Rank and File: 1st, Pte. Burton; 2nd, Pte. Dumbrell. E.R.E. Personnel: 1st, L./Cpl. Brooks, A.C.C.; 2nd, Cpl. Connelly. A. and S.H. Recruits: Pte. Chapman.

The following officers have passed through the Depot during the past few months: Colonel E. C. Irish to Singapore; Lieut.-Colonel D. V. Taylor to Hong Kong; Lieut.-Colonel K. Howse from Hong Kong, Lieut.-Colonel J. E. Maywhort from Tripoli, Lieut.-Colonel B. E. French from B.T.A., due for East Africa; Colonel H. L. Foulkes-Roberts to Cyprus; and Major E. S. Foster to N.A.G.

This season we have been fortunate in being able to field two soccer teams each Wednesday with a reasonable prospect of success. In the Harwood Cup we met 23 Parachute Field Ambulance and, after an exciting game, lost by the odd goal in nine. No. 1 Company, R.A.M.C., were our opponents in the Irvine Cup. In this match enough goals were scored to satisfy even the touch-line critics, but here again we lost a hard-fought game by 6—5.

This is the first year the unit has taken part in competitive table tennis. Our team got off to an excellent start and so far is unbeaten. In addition to heading our section of the league, we have reached the final of the Inter-Unit Knockout Competition and the semi-finals of the Aldershot and District Tournament.

Another Dental Hygienists' Course has been brought to a successful conclusion. At an examination attended by Ministry of Health observers, Cpls. Pursey and Elson, Q.A.R.A.N.C., were awarded the Ministry's Diploma. We congratulate both these N.C.Os. on their success.

On the social side the Sergeants' Mess Christmas Dance was well patronized. It was pleasing to see so many of our R.A.M.C. friends among the guests and to have the opportunity of talking over old times with the many retired stalwarts of the R.A.D.C. who never fail to attend this popular function.

P.N.T.S., Q.A.R.A.N.C.

BY now it is hoped the mysterious abbreviation is meaningful—to those still in doubt the correct interpretation is as follows: Preliminary Nurse Training School

Since October, 1955, Q.A.R.A.N.C. recruits have been posted to this School on completion of two weeks' Basic Military Training at the Depot, Q.A.R.A.N.C., Hindhead.

The Educational and Preliminary Nurse Training covers a period of ten weeks and training in both spheres runs concurrently.

The School is situated on Thornhill and occupies the former Isolation Hospital. The transition period is nearing completion and we are now able to reap the benefits of Central Heating, and say a fond farewell to the coke fumes of the Depot.

The standard of work is already proving that the best use is being made of the equipment and study facilities available. Even the presence of "Mrs. Smith," our lifelike dummy in the Model Ward, and the strip lighting over the

display panels in the Education Centre's Information Room are now accepted facts.

We have been fortunate in receiving a generous donation from the Nuffield Trust which has provided a well-furnished sitting room and lightened the burden of "interior economy."

Numerous visitors have expressed their whole-hearted approval of the living quarters and conditions generally. It is hoped that their visits will show dividends in future recruiting to the Corps.

Army Medical Equipment Depot, Ludgershall

A BONFIRE and fireworks display was held on Guy Fawkes' night for the children of the families, and this was followed by a Social Evening and Dance. A Church Parade was held on Remembrance Day.

Since the last edition of the MAGAZINE, Capt. R. J. Green has left for C.M.E.D., Woolwich; Lieut. D. McTighe for Hong Kong; Sgt. B. D. E. Jones for Nairobi; and Sgt. E. C. Howes for C.M.E.D., B.A.O.R. Capt. J. Burke and Lieut. T. E. C. Bull have joined us.

The football season is well under way and the unit team, under the able supervision of Capt. Green and S./Sgt. Haining, are making a name for themselves in the local competitions, and at the moment are lying third in the Andover District League, Division III. At rugby a combined team of A.M.E.D. and 20 Company, R.A.M.C., are doing very well, having lost only one match this season.

Colchester

WE warmly welcome our latest arrivals, S./Sgt. Murphy and Sgt. Peel, and wish the very best of luck to S./Sgt. Annison and Sgt. Denby on posting.

Our Christmas festivities went off to a fine start with an excellent show given by our unit concert party. All credit to Cpls. Newman, Jones and Barton, Ptes. Agombar, Pashler and Williams for their efforts in putting up such a fine performance. This was followed by the ever-popular children's party, and who else could play the part of Father Christmas so well as that untiring personality Q.M.S. Ted Doughty. On Christmas morning the Hospital was visited by the Mayor and Mayoress of Colchester, the G.O.C., East Anglian District,

Major-General Harding, the Garrison Commander, Brigadier Barton, the A.D.M.S., Colonel Anderson, all accompanied by their wives. Later, Mrs. D. S. Cochran, wife of our Commanding Officer, had the unenviable task of judging the best decorated ward. At the Unit Christmas Dance it was not long before the M.C., S./Sgt. Short, got things really going. It turned out to be a most enjoyable occasion, and our thanks are due to the Matron and her officers for turning up in force.

Lieut.-General Sir Frederick Harris performed the official opening ceremony of the new Q.A.R.A.N.C. Officers' Mess. The guests, who were welcomed by Dame Helen Gillespie, included the Mayor and Mayoress of Colchester, the District Commander, the Chief of Staff, Eastern Command, and Major-General Sachs, the D.D.M.S.

The key was carried on a cushion of scarlet velvet trimmed with silver-grey cord by the Mess Secretary, and presented to the D.G.A.M.S. by the P.M.C., Major Rowles. In his address the D.G. said this was the first officers' mess to be built in this country for the Corps since 1949 when the Q.A.I.M.N.S. became the Q.A.R.A.N.C. He also paid tribute to the officers of the Corps and thanked Dame Helen Gillespie for the hospitality extended to so many guests. The Matron, Major U. A. Dowling, and her staff had done much hard work to have the furnishings and carpets in place on the due date, and the ante-room, hall and dining room were filled with beautiful flowers which alone must have taken hours to arrange.

The new building is in the modern style of architecture and is decorated throughout in pastel shades. Central heating gives a luxurious warmth as one enters through glass doors into the spacious hall. French windows lead from the ante-room and dining room on to a paved terrace which stretches along the front of the building.

Both the football and hockey teams have continued to maintain the improvement shown over last season's performances. The football team is through to the third round of the District Minor Units Cup and to the zone final of the Harwood Cup, in which they are drawn against 15 Field Ambulance. After beating 12 Company, R.A.M.C., in the Harwood Cup, the team has to meet them again in the first round of the Bliss Cup. After a struggle the few keen rugby enthusiasts in the unit have formed a team and are looking for fixtures.

Waringfield

WE congratulate Major H. M. Bond, R.A.M.C., on his majority and wish him continued success in the Corps.

Both the cross-country team and the tug-of-war team are hard at it training again in an effort to retain the trophies won so well at last year's events.

A welcome is extended to our new Assistant Matron, Major W. Delaney, Q.A.R.A.N.C., the post having been vacated by Major E. F. Porritt, Q.A.R.A.N.C., on posting to B.A.O.R.

New faces in the Sergeants' Mess consist of Sgts. Gilmore, Walters and Strachen, R.A.M.C., and Sgt. Campos, A.C.C. Departures include S./Sgt. Kane to Hong Kong, Sgt. McNab to Singapore and Sgt. Little to Hollywood. Unfortunately, this is not the better-known Hollywood but a M.R.S. near Belfast. For a very short while we had the company of S./Sgt. Lee, but he has now left us for "Civvy Street." With him go all best wishes for the future.

The main attractions over the Christmas period were the All Ranks' Dance, which was voted a great success by all, and a Children's Christmas Party with Sgt. Wilson in the guise of a very successful Santa Claus. The chimney, which was constructed by Sgt. Gilmore, was quite a masterpiece and, we hear, even deceived the R.E. representative for a short while as an unofficial Works Service. Twelfth Night was celebrated in the Sergeants' Mess with a Christmas Dinner, followed by a dance, guest of honour being Mr. M. Smith, our late C.S.M.

The unit was pleasantly surprised to hear that two of the unit football team, Sgt. Walters, R.A.M.C., and Pte. Ralston, A.C.C., had been selected to play for the N.I.D. Station team versus R.A.F. Station, Castle Archdale. Cpl. Chambers, R.A.M.C., was also selected as a reserve. The result, a win to the N.I.D. Station team by five goals to one, was very creditable.

14th Field Ambulance *B.A.O.R. 4*

THE New Year saw the arrival of our new Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel I. N. Darbyshire, R.A.M.C., to whom we extend sincere wishes for a happy stay with the unit. At the same time we wish every happiness and success to Lieut.-Colonel A. Gleave, R.A.M.C., our late C.O. In this vein we also congratulate Major D. W. Bray, R.A.M.C., on his recent

promotion; as 2 I.C. he commanded the unit in the period between the two colonels.

W.O.I D. H. Anderson, R.A.M.C., is now R.S.M., W.O.I A. Chapman having taken over a similar appointment at B.M.H. Iserlohn. Also posted from us to Iserlohn is S./Sgt. J. Hilston, our Chief Clerk, who has been replaced by Sgt. L. G. A. Clarke, late of H.Q., NORTHAG.

Christmas was spent in the traditional Army fashion with the usual dinner on Christmas Day. A social evening, comic football match and a film show saw the men well entertained, the children being taken care of by the Sergeants' Mess.

On the sports side our football team has not been too successful this season, having been well and truly beaten by our great rivals, 31 Field Ambulance, on two occasions, each time by a convincing margin. Although knocked out of the Medical Units Competition, they enthusiastically carry on in the Minor Units League.

The Annual Administrative Inspection, conducted by Brigadier W. A. G. Burns, Commander of 4th Guards Brigade, was extremely satisfactory and now the unit is settling down to active training as a Field Ambulance. A stretcher-bearers' course for representatives from units throughout the Division has been held, and at present a first-aid course for Divisional Padres is in progress.

The unit training programme has been designed to train the unit for its proper function with the Division, but other training is not being neglected. For instance, a junior course of promotion is running at present, attached personnel are attending St. John Certificate lectures, and education classes for 1st and 2nd class certificates are preparing for the approaching examinations. Film shows are held each week, combining training with recreation in an acceptable manner. The Autumn Exercises provided valuable experience in the benefits and snags of the conception of Medical Collecting Units, as opposed to Field Ambulances.

Despite difficulties of our surroundings (we are surrounded by particularly well-stocked coal-mines), a demonstration site depicting sanitary arrangements on the march and in camp is being prepared, and should prove a valuable training asset to other units in the Brigade and Division. As will be gathered, this unit is extremely active, and we should have an interesting and enjoyable year. We hope that our colleagues throughout the world will have an equally enjoyable 1956.

Cyprus

THE Governor of Cyprus visited the Hospital on 5th January and spent the morning going round the Hospital and talking with the patients and many members of the staff. He concluded his visit at the R.A.M.C. Officers' Mess, where he congratulated all concerned on the good work that was being done and particularly on the prevailing high morale of the patients and the general sense of happiness he had encountered during his visit.

E.O.K.A., either through bad intelligence or a badly timed fuse, failed to co-ordinate the explosion of a fairly powerful bomb under the Mess veranda with the Governor's visit, but succeeded in annoying several of the staff at breakfast the next morning. However, there was no damage to life or limb and the veranda has now been repaired; one erring soldier was admonished quickly on Company Orders, who with further time for reflection might have suffered a harder fate. Since we last appeared in the news, the unit have largely been forbidden to go into the town of Nicosia, and most entertainment has, of necessity, been in camp. This has taken the form of monthly dances, monthly shows by C.S.E.U. and a weekly film show. Except for the curtailment of large gatherings outside camp, Christmas went on in the Hospital, and both patients and staff entered into the festive spirit and, one could truly say, a good time was had by all.

The Company soccer team have justified the confident paragraph in our last notes and have won the Cyprus District Minor Units Soccer League and have been promoted to the Major League, where they made a good start by forcing a draw with the South Staffords Battalion team. Considering that we have no home ground to practise on, and that the staff are flat out at the moment, looking after the injured and sick, we consider that the team have done remarkably well.

The Hospital has received the honour of visits from a number of distinguished visitors during the past three months, including: His Excellency the Governor and Lady Harding; General Sir Charles Keightley, the Commander-in-Chief, M.E.L.F.; Lady D'Lisle and Dudley and Lady Keightley; Air Vice-Marshal Lee Potter, P.M.O., R.A.F., M.E.L.F.

Recent arrivals include Lieut.-Colonel A. Box, Lieut.-Colonel J. Watts, Lieut.-Colonel Warnants, Major Bevan, Major Munro, Major Magner, Capt. Doherty, Lieuts. James,



37 COMPANY, R.A.M.C., WINNERS CYPRUS DISTRICT MINOR UNITS LEAGUE

Back Row—Pte. Holden (A.C.C.), Pte. Ray, Pte. Wakelin, Pte. Calland, S./Sgt. Stephenson, Pte. Waterson, Pte. Hughes, Sgt. Wilson, Pte. Rawlings, Pte. Jack (R.A.P.C.).
Middle Row—Captain Bryson, Cpl. Tohill, Lieut.-Colonel Stephens, Pte. Dawson, Major Tallon.
Front Row—Pte. Farnell (A.C.C.), L./Cpl. Cooper.

Lowthorpe and McCann, R.A.M.C.; Lieut.-Colonel G. Lewis, R.A.D.C.; Major Woods, Major Brett, Major Barrett, Q.A.R.A.N.C.; W.O.II Byers, S./Sgts. Williams, Stephenson and Cracknell, Sgts. Sutton and Yeomans, R.A.M.C., and Sgt. Tovey, Q.A.R.A.N.C.

New units, finding room in an already crowded compound, include the C.M.L. from Fayid and No. 1 Hygiene Wing.

Fayid

AT midnight on 22nd November, 1955, the Hospital closed for further admissions. This event was marked by a very entertaining party organized by W.O.I Finbow in the W.Os. and Sergeants' Mess, and attended by many of the officers and their ladies. As the bewitching hour approached, all the guests and hosts

formed into procession and, headed by a piper, marched to the main entrance. Here the signposts were ceremonially removed and replaced by a new one with a large arrow directing all patients to the next hospital (R.A.F., Fayid) down the road. A bugler then sounded an appropriate melody.

On 27th November the last service was held in our beautiful little church, which was well-nigh full. The service closed with a re-dedication of the building, first dedicated by Bishop Gwyn in 1942. During the last hymn the Cross was removed and the Altar candles were carried out by two seven-year-old sons of unit officers. There were few dry eyes at this moving closure of "our church," and our thanks are due to the Rev. Coulter for a memorable service.

On 29th November we said good-bye to our last patient, who was transferred to the M.R.S.,



Presentation by Anglo-Egyptian Oil Company
to B.M.H., Fayid

Lieut.-Colonel Dick, Lieut.-Colonel Howe, Mrs. Mulvenny,
Lieut.-General Hull, Mr. Pevleve, Mrs. Dick, Mr. Mulvenny.

El Ballah. Fittingly, as indicative of the range of patients treated, he was a Palestinian civilian employee who, incidentally, accompanied the British Army on the move from Haifa in 1947.

About this time we received an extremely pleasant visit from the Personnel Manager of the Anglo-Egyptian Oil Company, Mr. H. Pevleve, whose name many readers of the book "The White Rabbit" will recall as one of the three British Agents who escaped from death in Buchenwald virtually by a miracle. Mr. Pevleve said that his Company wished to mark all the help they had received from the Medical Services in Egypt by presenting a cheque to our charities. This handsome donation (of £E200 or about £205 sterling) was duly presented on 8th December at a very pleasant ceremony in the office of the G.O.C., B.T.E., Lieut.-General R. A. Hull. Those present, in addition to the G.O.C. and Mr. Pevleve, included H.B.M. Consul in Suez, Mr. Mulvenny, accompanied by his wife; our D.D.M.S., Brigadier Day; the C.O., Lieut.-Colonel A. B. Dick; Mrs. Dick; and the Matron, Lieut.-Colonel J. Howe. The ceremony was followed by a luncheon party at the United Services Club in Moascar. The donation has been forwarded to U.K. to be divided equally between R.A.M.C. and Q.A.R.A.N.C. Benevolent Funds.

On 17th December the camp and buildings were finally evacuated by the Medical Services. It is rumoured that the Egyptian Army is to re-establish a hospital here, but on our last day, when the camp's flag was finally struck, we handed over to a Guard Company of the R.P.C. The flag has been sent to Cyprus for our successor, B.M.H., Dhekhalia, to use in due course.

SPECIAL OBITUARY NOTICE

BMH FAYID
(Died 31 Dec. 55)

A.B.D. writes:

The final passing of an old friend (or enemy) always leaves a gap, even though watching the progress of a chronic disease may be a painful process. Indeed, there was before the end a period of marked cachexia—feverish activity of which the signs and symptoms were *irritability* (of all concerned), *a flush* (of transport), *head-aches* (happily amenable to treatment in the Mess or Canteen), *frequency* (of arrivals and departures) and *wasting* (of equipment and stores).

The disease first attacked on 1st July, 1955, when the B.M.H. was stricken low (to 450 beds!). This grandmother of hospitals, born in the Citadel in Cairo, and who had re-married late in life (to 19 General Hospital), moved in her later years (in 1947) to get the benefit of the sea air at Fayid. Here she enjoyed herself and indeed continued to lead a full and busy life almost to the very end. Admittedly, she had the best of medical care. Consultants, senior and junior specialists alike, were all at her disposal together with a host of resident housemen, nursing officers and "students" (of both sexes). But in July it was evident that this was to be the old lady's last illness. Even a special visit by the D.D.G.A.M.S. himself in September, 1955, only temporarily arrested her decline.

By early November, when her old friend G.H.Q. Mideast had to leave for urgent business in Cyprus, it was obvious that her days were numbered; and the Consultants—offering no real hope—could only shake their heads sadly and depart.

On 29th November all her guests (patients) had gone and only the immediate family was present at the bedside. Even of these close relatives, many were unable to stay to the end, either being called away to U.K. or to look after her grandchildren in far-flung outposts of M.E.L.F.

On 17th December, 1955, after a brief flicker of activity (hand-over of buildings), the old lady was moved in a comatose state to her eldest surviving daughter's house at (Station Hospital) Moascar. There she expired peacefully with the closing of the year.

Many will mourn her passing. The numbers who enjoyed her hospital(ity) are legion, and she maintained open house regardless of colour, rank or creed. There were a few, inevitably, who felt the raw edge of her tongue; for indeed

she could be a hard even though a just taskmistress. Nevertheless, she was always interested in the successes of her protégés, and sponsored many a promising young physician and surgeon on the road to senior specialist and even to consultant status.

May it be said of her, as of General Gordon, "I have done my best for the Honour of my Country!"

Sudan

THE Royal Army Medical Corps, formed on 23rd June, 1898, first saw active service in the Khartoum Expedition in the summer of the same year. When the campaign ended, at a general parade held in Cairo on 8th October, the General Officer Commanding finished his address with the words: "I have not heard a single adverse criticism with regard to the working of the medical arrangements." The Corps has served in the Sudan ever since. Today the massive R.A.M.C. badge carried on the hillside at Gabeit is the sole remaining evidence of our long occupation. Lieut.-Colonel J. Aitchison writes:

Following the 1939-45 war the only Medical Units in the Sudan were the British Station Hospital, Khartoum, and 24 Medical Reception Station, Gabeit, situated in a training camp for the infantry battalion garrisoned in Khartoum. For years a close liaison existed between these medical units and the Sudan Government Medical Services, and much mutual help had been given. For quite a time it was known that evacuation of British and Egyptian Forces from the Sudan was imminent, and provisional plans were drawn up by Headquarters of the Sudan Command for disbandment and evacuation of all units. The British Station Hospital was given a date to close about ten days before departure of the main body of the garrison troops from Khartoum, while the 24 M.R.S., Gabeit, was closing on departure of the Infantry Training Company to join the main body of the infantry when it sailed from Port Sudan. Within 90 days after the Sudan Government requested evacuation of all British and Egyptian troops from the Sudan, all such troops had to be out of the country. A strictly phased programme was necessary. The Station Hospital, Khartoum, was instructed to close by 1st October and be completely disbanded by 10th October, 1955, and a rather hectic time for everyone commenced. Each department had its own problems as to disposal of its

documents, stores and equipment. Boards of Survey had to be convened and every drug and other piece of medical equipment classified into groups for return to M.E.L.F., sale by auction, local disposal, etc. Thanks to the splendid work of the staff, the whole thing became organized and we were able to close down by the appointed date.

The amount of work put in by every member of the staff was most laudable, and the fact that our programme for disbandment was finished exactly on time was an indication of the effort made. The closure of the B.S. Hospital took place without incident, and within an incredibly short time the Hospital really looked empty and deserted. Many had been the rumoured suggestions as to the future of the B.S.H. on being taken over by the Sudan Government, and we were pleased to learn that it was to become a Civilian Eye Hospital, as the whole layout was most suitable for a Medical Unit. The closure of 24 M.R.S., Gabeit, was carried out easily as all the buildings, equipment and stores were on charge to the Infantry Training Company in camp, and the medical equipment was returned to Khartoum for disposal by the British Station Hospital. All patients were evacuated with the Infantry Company when they embarked at Port Sudan. No civilian doctor was available for the local population around Gabeit—merely a Sudanese Medical Orderly—and frequently the Medical Officer at the M.R.S. was asked to see native sick. Such help was always given willingly, and as a result our Medical Officers gained quite a reputation among the local population and will be missed by many. Certain incidents in the evacuation stand out in my mind:

About a week before closure of the B.S.H., several large boxes of medical supplies, which had been in transit many weeks, arrived. These were taken on charge and returned immediately to M.E.L.F. On the day following closure of the Hospital the place became full of Sudanese workmen and more improvements were carried out in days than we had been able to get in years. The happy atmosphere existing between all ranks and the Sudanese officials who were taking over was most marked, and in spite of the climate being rather trying for many months of the year, it was obvious that most of the staff were leaving the Sudan with a certain amount of regret.

Since returning to this country from the Sudan I have had a letter from a British civilian

friend in Khartoum, who wrote: "With closure of the British Station Hospital, Khartoum, we feel as if someone has left a door open and a cold draught of wind has blown in." Perhaps the R.A.M.C. can feel with pride that their long service in the Sudan has at least brought help and appreciation to some people.

Depot, Nairobi

RECENT activities have been centred mainly on Christmas and all the usual parties and dances were held, including parties for the 120 African children and the fifty or so British children. On both occasions S./Sgt. Brayshaw carried off the part of Father Christmas to perfection. The customary "fancy dress" soccer match between officers and sergeants delighted the spectators, but the participants had some discomfort as one of the linesmen was armed with a fire hose.

The time may be appropriate to give readers a little idea of our set-up here in Nairobi. The unit consists of about twenty R.A.M.C. officers, thirty nursing officers, ninety British other ranks and 180 other ranks. The Hospital is about three miles from the centre of Nairobi, a large city of mixed European, Asian and African population. Entertainment facilities are fairly good and trips can easily be arranged to any of the several National Reserves, where lion, elephant and other game can be seen (and photographed) in their natural surroundings. Some of the unit have also made the ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro (19,565 feet).

The African other ranks of the unit are trained in the same trades as our own Corps and can rise to the rank of W.O.II. Some of them have long service and, as well as soldiering in East Africa, have seen service in Malaya and the Middle East.

Our R.S.M., W.O.I C. Swan, has left us on commissioning and our loss will be the gain of Station Hospital, Nanyuki. W.O.I Webb has joined us and we offer him a hearty welcome. We also offer our congratulations to the Matron, Lieut.-Colonel M. A. J. Condon, on her appointment to a R.R.C.

Japan

ALL available space for the notes from Japan could well be taken up by a catalogue of

departures and arrivals, so numerous have these been since our last contribution appeared. To mention just a few, Colonel N. Bickford is now A.D.M.S. and O.C. Hospital, having relieved Colonel J. W. A. McIver and Lieut.-Colonel R. M. Johnstone, the former having left for Hong Kong and the latter returned to U.K. There has been almost a complete change of our Nursing Officers within one month. Lieut.-Colonel E. F. W. M. Jolly remains as Matron, while two successive troopships have taken away the other ten Q.A.R.A.N.C. officers and brought nine replacements. Major G. Mather replaced Lieut. Crowley as Quartermaster, Major A. T. Cook is Medical Specialist, and Major T. F. P. Haynes is Administrative Officer. W.O.I Barker has gone home, W.O.II V. L. Webberley remains at the Medical Equipment Section, and S./Sgt. McCamley relieved S./Sgt. Ward as Chief Clerk at the Hospital. Our numbers have fallen considerably during the past year, but our outside commitments remain and fully a quarter of all ranks, including Q.A.R.A.N.C., are employed in units elsewhere, stretching from Tokyo to Korea.

Life in Japan is pleasant under the prevailing conditions. We have our share of sport, with the Company hockey and football teams holding their own in the local leagues. A B.C.F.K. Golfing Society has recently been formed and, for the enthusiast who cares to cook his own meals on the top of a mountain, ski-ing is available. Hill climbers and walkers are well provided for, the Kure area being surrounded by 2,000-foot hills within easy walking distance. The lovely views and colourful costumes cry aloud to be recorded, and photography has many ardent followers. Cameras are cheap and a well-equipped dark-room exists in the Hospital for the enthusiast who wishes to delve more deeply into the subject. Entertainments in the form of cinema shows, dances, launch outings and concerts are all provided free of charge, typhoons and earth tremors providing variety.

The pre-Christmas period was marked by the wedding of Capt. Alan Fletcher, R.A.M.C., to Miss Patricia Senior in St. Peter's Garrison Church, the bride being given away by Colonel Bickford and the reception held in the Officers' Mess. Miss Senior arrived via America, and a romantic touch was added by the thought that, between them, the bride and groom had circled the world to be married.

TERRITORIAL AND ARMY EMERGENCY RESERVE NOTES



29 BEACH DRESSING STATION, R.A.M.C., (T.A.)

29 Beach Dressing Station

NO. 29 (Beach) Field Dressing Station, R.A.M.C. (T.A.), is one of the Medical Units in the 264 (Scottish) Beach Brigade. The Beach Brigade is the only one of its kind in the British Army—and this Medical Unit is trained in Beach Medical Duties and the amphibious transport of casualties.

This year No. 29 (Beach) F.D.S. distinguished themselves by winning the Brigade Commander Corps Shield, the first time a Medical Unit has ever gained this shield. This Shield is awarded annually for: Score gained at Annual Rifle Range; Administrative efficiency; and any outstanding achievements during the year.

At Annual Camp this year, 29 (Beach) F.D.S. won outright the 52nd Lowland Division Ambulance Cup—for stretcher drill, application

of the Thomas splint and transport of casualties over obstacles.

During the camp, which was held at Barry, Angus, the Divisional Medical Corps Sports Meeting took place, and No. 29 (Beach) F.D.S. gained more points than all the other units put together and won the Divisional Sports Cup.

On the whole the unit had a most successful year. The training carried out was of a high standard, and many enjoyable social events were organized throughout the year—at the moment they are training hard to maintain their position both in the Division and the Brigade.

The unit is commanded by Major W. Brodie, R.A.M.C. (T.A.); the Q.M. is Capt. R. Frame, R.A.M.C. (T.A.), and the Company Officer is Lieut. D. McArdle, R.A.M.C. (T.A.). The P.S.I. attached to the unit is W.O.II J. Forbes, R.A.M.C.

OWED TO A MILITARY HOSPITAL

ARE you a "knee" or a man with T.B.,
 An "ulcer," a "wound" or a "sprain"?
 Have you got mumps, is your face out in lumps,
 Or a tumour affecting your brain?
 Whether it's liver or kidneys or spleen,
 A gash or a cut or a bite,
 There's no need to look so unhealthily green—
 You're getting Cascara tonight.

Have you cirrhosis or got silicosis,
 Or arms that have just fallen off?
 Perhaps tonsillitis, acute laryngitis,
 Or racked by a harsh hacking cough?
 Whether it's measles, rheumatics or flu',
 Maybe you're losing your sight
 There's no need to look so uncommonly blue—
 You're getting Cascara tonight.

Have you got gout, are your teeth falling out,
 Perhaps you have sat on a tack?
 Are your ligaments torn, has your big toe a corn,

Or have you a pain in the back?
 Whether it's rabies or just a sore thumb,
 A cold or you're smitten by blight,
 There's no need to look so incredibly glum—
 You're getting Cascara tonight.

Are you a wreck, have you broken your neck,
 Were you bitten by poisonous snakes?
 Have you D.T.s., are you weak at the knees,
 Or suffering only from shakes?
 Whether you're schizo, neurotic or mad
 And you feel that you're losing the fight,
 There's no need to look so depressingly sad—
 You're getting Cascara tonight.

ASSOCIATION AND OLD COMRADES' NOTES

IN previous numbers of this MAGAZINE much has been written about the R.A.M.C. Association Accident Benefit Scheme, therefore it is somewhat disappointing to find that an exceedingly small number of requests to be insured under the Scheme has been received at Association Headquarters from individual members; individual members meaning those members who are not attached to Association branches. May we remind any reader who may have intended sending in a subscription, but overlooked the matter that it is not too late to do so now. Life Members are asked to pay 2s. 6d., which will give cover for five years, provided the Insurance Scheme remains in force and available for that period, although there is no reason to suppose that it will lapse before the end of that period.

Life Members are asked to pay the half-a-crown to save extra correspondence and postage which would follow in collecting from each member the small annual premium of sixpence. In the not very probable event of the scheme petering out, the unexpended balance may be claimed and would be refunded. For annual members, ex-R.A.M.C. and R.A.D.C., the subscription to the Corps Association is 3s. a year, sixpence of which goes to the Insurance Brokers. The Life Membership fee is 30s. Space does not permit inserting the rates of subscrip-

tion for serving personnel, but these may be obtained at any R.A.M.C. Unit.

We should be glad to hear from anyone who wishes to participate in the scheme.

We are glad to note from nominal rolls of subscribers received from some of the Association's branches that the introduction of the scheme has brought back into the Association many whose membership had long since lapsed.

At the time of submitting these notes it was too early to decide whether the scheme has "caught on." However, it is hoped to give a better idea of the position in the Annual Report of the Association, which should appear in the next number of the MAGAZINE.

R.A.M.C. Old Comrades' Church Parade

The Commandant and Staff of the R.A.M.C. Depot have again very kindly offered the Depot as the venue for the 5th Annual R.A.M.C. Old Comrades' Reunion, to take place in conjunction with the Depot "At Home" on Sunday, 24th June, 1956, when parents, relatives and friends of serving soldiers are invited.

The R.A.M.C. Association and Old Comrades will again have the honour of taking part with the present generation in the Corps Week Church Parade.

It is hoped that everyone who can possibly be at Crookham on Sunday, 24th June, 1956,

will turn up to make the event an even greater success than in previous years.

The assembly and parade will be on the Depot Square at 1045 hrs. Guides will be available at entrances to the Depot to direct arrivals.

1100 hrs.—Drum-head Service. Depot troops in hollow square. Seating available for ex-Corps members and families. All are requested to be seated by 1055 hrs. If weather is wet, the service will be held in the Gymnasium.

1140 hrs.—The troops will re-form line and Old Comrades and Association members in mufti will be marshalled into platoons in threes. Branches are requested to parade their banners. Dress: Civilian dress with medals and decorations.

1145 hrs.—The parade will march past. The salute will be taken by Major-General T. Young, Representative Colonel Commandant.

After the parade the Old Comrades and Association members are requested to assemble at No. 2 N.A.A.F.I. (opposite sports field). A large restaurant and an adjoining fully licensed bar will be reserved for their use and for their families. Lunches and refreshments will be available at reasonable prices.

A grass field opposite will be available for parking and for those who wish to make a picnic lunch.

After lunch, the Museum and Training Departments will be open for parties who are interested.

There will also be a potted sports meeting on the lower field and a cricket match on the upper field. Regimental Bands will play on both fields. Teas will be available on the fields.

The Depot Amateur Dramatic Society will present a play in the Globe Theatre at 6.15 p.m. The whole Depot will be open to visitors.

Coaches will meet trains at Fleet and Aldershot during the day and will be available for return journeys in the evening.

Overnight accommodation can be made available at the Depot on the nights of 23rd and 24th June, if requested in advance.

It is hoped that branches will arrange excursions. Will such branches please inform the Adjutant, R.A.M.C. Depot and Training Establishment, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Crookham, Hants:

(a) Estimated total number of party.

(b) Numbers requiring overnight accommodation.

Other visitors, not proceeding with organized parties, are also requested to give similar information to the Adjutant.

There will be ample car park accommodation, and overhead cover in the event of rain.

All visitors are requested to call in at the Visitors' Hut on arrival to receive information and record their visit.

Further information may be obtained on application to: Adjutant, R.A.M.C. Depot. Telephone: Fleet 971, Ext. 9.

NETLEY BRANCH

The branch membership as at the year end 1955 was as follows:

Life Members, 57; Annual Members, 43; Unit Members, 402; Total, 502.

Letters dispatched during the year numbered 412.

The branch held five general meetings during the year. Arrangements were made for two more meetings, but due to the lack of support these could not be held. Socially, the branch has been very quiet this year. This is probably attributable to the extremely good summer we experienced. There seemed to be little interest in dances and whist drives during the summer months.

On 30th September, 1955, a dance was organized and held in aid of the newly formed branch of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Association here. The profits, a sum of £11 7s. 11d. are shortly to be donated to the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Branch at Netley. The dance was a great success, very well attended and very well balanced proportions of dancing partners enjoyed themselves.

Lots of "old faces" were seen at the popular Unit Sports Day held here during the summer.

The branch was represented at a Remembrance Day Parade and Service held in the Royal Victoria Hospital. A donation was sent to the Field of Remembrance at Whitehall.

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer at the beginning of the year, W.O.I Partridge, R.A.M.C., handed over in April to W.O.II Inman, R.A.M.C., because it was thought that, at that time, he was to be posted away from the unit in the near future. W.O.II Inman will soon be handing over these duties, also due to an imminent posting, in the near future. A new Secretary has not yet been found.

An effort to stir the interests of younger, as well as older, members—unit members in particular—is maintained.

WINCHESTER BRANCH

The Annual General Meeting of the branch was held on Thursday, 26th January, 1956, at the Westgate Hotel, Winchester. The chair was taken by Major E. V. Munden.

The Hon. Secretary stated that the branch was still doing fairly well and that funds were about the same as last year. There had been no new members join and nobody had transferred out of the branch.

Major E. V. Munden was again elected Chairman, Brigadier H. T. Findlay was elected Vice-Chairman in place of Colonel T. I. Dun. Mr. W. Ware was elected to remain Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Changes in the committee were Mr. Hyde to replace Mr. E. Seddon-Reeve, who retires at his own request after two years. Another new committee member is Mr. E. Tatton.

It was decided that a special committee meeting would be held to discuss the prospects of raising money for the branch funds.

A note of thanks was passed for those who made the children's party a success.

The Children's Christmas party was held on Saturday, 7th January, 1956, at Holy Trinity Hall. The hall was gaily decorated and a 20 ft. Christmas tree (the gift of Lieut.-Colonel F. C. and Mrs. Heatley) adorned the stage.

The children, about thirty of them, were welcomed by the Chairman, Major E. V. Munden, and then sat down to a good tea which was laid out by members' wives. After tea games were played and ice-cream distributed. The highlight of the evening was the distribution of presents by Mrs. G. Swift, wife of the Vice-President. After "Auld Lang Syne" and "The Queen," the children on leaving for home each received an apple, orange and sweets.

Those responsible for the organization were Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. W. Ware) and Mrs. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. Ireson, Mrs. A. Arthur, and Mrs. J. Soper, Mr. H. Edgington for lighting the tree, and Mr. R. Potter for the games.

LEICESTER AND RUTLAND BRANCH

This branch of the Corps Association, which has been moribund for some years, has now, under the chairmanship of Lieut.-Colonel S. A. Bower, R.A.M.C. (T.A.), and W.O.I W. T. D. Gray, R.A.M.C., an able Secretary, come to new life.

A room in the Fountain Hotel, Cheapside, Leicester, has been provisionally booked for the first Wednesday in each month.

The first meeting was held on the 1st Wed-

nesday in November, and although the attendance was sparse, the keenness of the members who attended was unbounded.

The second meeting, held in December, showed an increase in members and a committee was set up from the members present.

Many members agreed to contact personal friends whom they knew as ex-Corps members, and the Secretary was requested to write to H.Q. for a list of members known to have been in the original Leicester Branch.

It is hoped that any member of the Corps who takes the MAGAZINE and reads this outside may rally round. All are assured of a warm welcome. Information may be obtained at any time from W.O.I W. T. D. Gray, R.A.M.C., or Capt. E. G. Macdonald, R.A.M.C. (T.A.), at H.Q., No. 3 (N.) C.C.S. (T.A.), Anstey Camp, Anstey Lane, Leicester. Tel. No. Anstey 2305.

The meetings are held on the first Wednesday in the month at The Fountain Hotel, Cheapside, Leicester, commencing at 8 p.m.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA BRANCH

After a most successful year as Chairman, Dr. S. Rush has handed over to Dr. G. Clarke, while Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Robinson remains as Vice-Chairman. Mr. S. Baker continues as Hon. Secretary and Capt. I. A. Watson was reappointed Hon. Treasurer. A successful social was held in the Sergeants' Mess of the Military Hospital, Lagos, on 9th July, when Dr. Rush presented a small gift to Mrs. R. H. Baker in recognition of her valuable help in organizing social functions over two and a half years. In November an interesting evening was spent at the Lagos Motor Yacht Club, where the Chairman, Dr. G. Clark, showed his colour film of a trip to Northern Nigeria. Other interesting colour films and transparencies were shown by Dr. Winston and Mr. de Clive-Lowe.

Editor's Note.—We are always glad to receive the various News-sheets put out by enterprising branches, such as the Bulletin from the City of London and *Ramcorps Reporter* from the Isle of Wight. We would remind branches, however, that these cannot altogether replace a summary of activities made up to the sending-in date shown upon the front page every quarter. Branch News-sheets often contain forecasts of events which have actually taken place before the quarterly sending-in day and, remembering "Crawfie's" recent *gaffe*, we hesitate to give a picturesque description of some hilarious evening which may have been cancelled at the last moment!

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL FUND

1954		£	s.	d.	1954		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
11,240	Balance—31st December, 1954	11,713	13	4		Freehold Property at cost						
222	Less Decrease in value of Investments during Year	885	5	11	4,500	83, Cambridge Street Pimlico				4,500	0	0
11,462		10,828	7	5		Investments (as valued 31st December, 1955)						
252	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year	252	5	11		£2,699 1s. 11d. Conversion Stock 3½%	2,064	16	2			
						£2,165 8s. 2d. Savings Bonds 3% 1965/75	1,721	10	0			
						£817 14s. 6d. Savings Bonds 3% 1960/70	666	8	11			
						£991 2s. 6d. British Gas 3% Gtd. Stock 1990/95	738	7	9			
					6,076					5,191	2	10
					16	Post Office Deposit Account				16	9	7
					1,122	Cash at Bank and in Hand				1,373	0	11
						NOTE: At this date the Association held a stock of Badges and Buttons £69 11s. 9d. and of Scarves and Ties £23 10s. 10d.						
<u>£11,714</u>		<u>£11,080</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>£11,714</u>					<u>£11,080</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u>

We have compared the above Balance Sheet with the Books and Vouchers relating thereto and certify that, to the best of our information, it is correct. We have verified the Bank Balances and Investments.

EVANS PIERSON AND CO.,
Portland House,
73 Basinghall Street,
London, E.C.2.

2nd February, 1956

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955

EXPENDITURE				INCOME								
1954		£	s.	d.	1954		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	To Donations and Grants				By Interest							
	Regular Forces Employment Association	40	0	0	£2,699 1s. 11d. Conversion Stock 3½% (Less Tax)	53	2	10				
	King's Chapel, Gibraltar	20	0	0	£2,165 8s. 2d. Savings Bonds 3% 1965/75 (Less Tax)	36	10	11				
41	Lighting and Heating	41	12	11	£817 14s. 6d. Savings Bonds 3% 1960/70 (Less Tax)	13	16	0				
13	Cleaning	12	0	0	£991 2s. 6d. British Gas 3% Gtd. Stock 1990/95 (Less Tax)	17	2	0				
520	Secretary's Salary and Insurance	534	4	4	Post Office Savings Bank	8	0			120	19	9
71	Clerical Assistance	86	0	0	30	Donations				162	4	3
46	Postage	51	7	6	282	Subscriptions (Individuals)				388	1	6
109	Printing and Stationery	186	1	8	416	do. (Units)				503	8	0
9	Telephone	10	10	0		Sales						
5	Audit Fee	5	5	0		Lapel Badges	60	2	8			
1	Bank Charges	9	11	6		Scarves, Ties, Blazer Badges and Buttons	278	18	2			
56	Travelling Expenses	56	3	4		Gramophone Records	1	2	6			
5	Advertisements	1	15	0						340	3	4
	Grant—Colonel A. E. Woodward	8	0	0	214	Rents received (83 Cambridge Street)				564	0	0
	Repairs to Typewriter	5	0	0	570	Part refund of Grant made to Branch				11	0	8
	Wreaths	8	5	0								
29	Miscellaneous Items	14	17	1								
49	Purchase of Lapel Badges				1,030	13	4					
161	do. Scarves, Ties and Blazer Badges				138	2	9					
20	Purchase etc. of Flag				196	8	4					
	83, Cambridge Street, Pimlico											
	Income Tax (Schedule 'A')											
	—2 Years	57	6	3								
	Repairs	28	14	6								
	Insurance	11	0	9								
	Rates	36	1	8								
	Agents Charges	18	4	0								
	Housekeeper's Wages	78	15	0								
	Income Tax—Excess Rents (2 years)	182	5	0								
211					412	7	2					
1,383	Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year				1,837	11	7					
252					252	5	11					
<u>£1,635</u>		<u>£2,089</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>£1,635</u>					<u>£2,089</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>

EDITORS' IN TRAY

DEAR SIR,

I cannot agree with some of the points raised by Mr. Boxall in the January issue.

Any cheapening in appearance or format of the publication would be deplored. It is evident to anyone in a position to read the quarterly crop of other services magazines that we at least do not err on the side of extravagance.

Is emphasis on the R.A.M.C. Association Branch news going to influence our circulation? I think it might—for the worse. It is surely our aim to attract additional subscribers and these are the younger element with a sporting record that compares not unfavourably with those from the "old school," whose sagas I am sure lose nothing in repeat performances by the aged and stiff. A natural desire of most people to see their achievement in print (with accompanying photographs if their looks justify it) must account for a fair proportion of our sales to the younger gladiators, and without the record how are we to build up sagas for subsequent Corps Days?

I agree with most of Mr. Boxall's suggestion contained in his last paragraph. A personal suggestion of a page devoted to Exchange and Mart might enable us to get rid of or acquire and would be a boon to magpies in retirement. Some of our more fortunate members might have holiday accommodation, boats, camping sites that would be mutually profitable if properly presented through the MAGAZINE.

Yours faithfully,

"DENTIBUS"

H.Q., Southern Command.

9th Feb. 56.

15, GRANTCHESTER STREET,
CAMBRIDGE.

From Dr. Philip Gosse

DEAR SIR,

One reader's comment on Mr. Boxall's "constructive criticisms" is this: The sooner you, Sir, evacuate the Editorial chair and the sooner Mr. Boxall occupies it the better!

Yours obediently,

PHILIP GOSSE.

One time private in the A.M.S. Corps.

HALSAY HOUSE,
CROMER,
NORFOLK.

22nd Jan., 56.

DEAR SIR,

As a contribution to the MAGAZINE, if you have room, I wonder if it would interest your readers, especially the newly trained X-ray operators of the R.A.M.C., to know something about the primitive methods by which we produced X-ray photographs. I am writing of the period from 1905 to 1910 when we were under the tuition of Colonel Spencer, R.A.M.C., at Millbank. A Rhumcoff coil was used (a brown mahogany box containing an iron core surrounded by miles of thin wire, which formed the magnetic field). This coil was placed at the head and above a MacKenzie-Davidson couch; in the centre and under the couch was a slotted box which held the glass photographic plate (Ilford). Leading from each side of the coil was an insulated wire, which ran through and connected with an adjustable arm or claw which held a Crook's or Cox's record tube. Leading from the tube the wires continued through a rheostat, also a platinum pointed commutator; from there to a 12-volt wet battery, which of course had to be recharged on a charging board when run down. Great care had to be taken, if a good picture was to be obtained, adjustments as to height and position of the tube in relation to the part of the body had to be taken. Sometimes in the case of a foreign body a MacKenzie-Davidson localizer was used. In those days very little was known of the danger, and potentialities emanating from the live naked tube, as there was no protection other than a pair of rubber gloves. It was only years after that the operators discovered how dangerous it was, in those pioneering days, while working with an exposed tube. Quite a great many of those operators have passed away suffering for years from loss of fingers, arms, etc., and from therapeutic X-ray dermatitis, also internal complications. Also the printing of the negatives, which were glass, was conducted in rather primitive conditions, especially in hot climates. I remember I myself was doing the job for four years in South Africa, sometimes the temperature being pretty high, and one can imagine how one felt when I was stuck in the developing room, trying to wash and fix the negatives in a dark room, 10 ft. by 4 ft., with very little ventilation.

Incidentally, in this house I have as a companion one G. Azeal, who was working as an X-ray operator, etc., for 35 years. He also has lost some fingers and suffers from dermatitis, but I'm pleased to say he is very fit otherwise and over 80 years of age.

I remain, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

J. J. ABBOTT.
(Late Q.M.S.)

FROM ALL QUARTERS

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Commands and Staff

C.B.: Major-Generals F. C. Hilton-Sergeant, late R.A.M.C.; F. J. O'Meara, late R.A.M.C.; and D. J. Muil, late R.A.D.C.

R.A.M.C.

O.B.E.: Lieut.-Colonels A. B. Dempsey and D. D. Maitland. *M.B.E.*: Major G. Shave; Majors (Q.M.) J. Aberdein (T.A.) and L. Leyland (T.A.). *B.E.M.*: S./Sgts. T. Hawnt and S. E. Wilson (T.A.). *C-in-C. FARELF Certificate of Good Service*: S./Sgt. J. G. Ampleford and Cpl. D. J. Morgan. *Long Service and Good Conduct Medal*: W.Os.I J. H. Rasell and K. A. Reeves; W.Os.II G. Barker and H. M. Bishop, B.E.M.; S./Sgt. R. Hall and Sgt. H. Bain, S./Sgt. J. G. Clough, Sgt. R. S. Gill.

R.A.D.C.

Meritorious Service Medal: S./Sgt. T. Corby, B.E.M. *Long Service and Good Conduct Medal*: W.Os.II G. A. Kelly and J. C. Muston; S./Sgt. D. W. Ball.

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

M.B.E.: Major M. Walshe, R.R.C. *R.R.C.*: Lieut.-Colonel M. A. J. Condon; Major E. M. Turner, M.B.E. *A.R.R.C.*: Major C. Fisher.

RETIREMENTS

R.A.M.C.

Colonels B. J. Daunt and C. V. Macnamara; Lieut.-Colonel J. A. C. Kidd; Majors (Q.M.) W. C. Ross, M.B.E., D.C.M., and G. J. D. Webberley; Majors E. D. M. Anderson, H. B. O. Edgson, D. E. Marmion, V. H. Muir and R. Luckwell.

R.A.D.C.

Colonel F. W. Burke.

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

Majors J. Monteath, L. M. Flower, R. Saunders and A. D. MacCormick; Capt. J. C. Clark.

PROMOTIONS

R.A.D.C.

To be Colonel: Lieut.-Colonel A. N. Moon. *To be Lieut.-Colonel*: Major R. Green.

APPOINTMENTS

R.A.M.C.

Major-General W. A. D. Drummond to be D.G.A.M.S. (April, 1956). Major-General F. J. O'Meara to be D.D.M.S., Western Command. Brigadier A. E. Campbell to be D.D.G.A.M.S. (April, 1956). Brigadier P. F. Palmer to be D.M.S., M.E.L.F. (December, 1955). Brigadier F. McL. Richardson to be D.M.S., N.A.G. (February, 1956). Colonels P. J. L. Capon to be Director of Army Health; E. M. Hennessy to be D.M.S., FARELF; T. F. M. Woods to be D.D.M.S., 1 Corps; K. H. Clark to be A.D.M.S., Berlin; M. R. Burke to be P.S.M.B., Western Command; R. J. Niven to R.A.M. College; and J. E. C. Robinson to be D.D.A.H., FARELF. Lieut.-Colonels J. C. Watts to Cyprus; T. E. Field to FARELF; J. F. D. Murphy to FARELF; J. McGhie to R.A.M. College; J. L. Gordon to Army School of Health; D. G. Levis to A.M.D.5; J. B. Carnow to be Adviser in Physical Medicine; J. B. M. Milne to Cyprus; H. J. Anderson to be D.D.A.H., Northern Command; and R. A. R. Torping to be A.D.P., Northern Command.

R.A.D.C.

Colonels E. C. Irish to FARELF as D.D.D.S.; A. K. Inglis to Western Command as D.D.D.S.; H. L. Foulkes-Roberts to M.E.L.F. as D.D.D.S.; H. Quinlan to Eastern Command as D.D.D.S. Lieut.-Colonels D. V. Taylor to Hong Kong; A. N. Moon to be O.C., No. 1 Army Dental Laboratory, and A.D.D.S., Aldershot District; H. G. Dobbie to be O.C., No. 2 Army Dental Laboratory; B. E. French to East Africa; O. E. Howell to Eastern Command; and K. Howse to Eastern Command.

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

Colonels G. Cocking to A.M.D. 4 and E. J. Stirling to FARELF as A.D.A.N.S. Lieut.-Colonels L. M. Rose to Southern Command as A.D.A.N.S.; K. M. Blair to Cambridge Hospital; E. Pullom to be A.D.A.N.S., West Africa Command; and F. B. Cozens to be Commandant, Preliminary Nurse Training School.

FOR SERVICES RENDERED

Mr. H. S. S. Amos came to R.A.M.C. Records office in Hammersmith in June, 1941, after twenty-two years with the Cavalry and R.A.C. Pay Office. He has risen from Departmental Clerk, Grade I, to Higher Executive Officer while serving the Corps, apart from a period of nine months when he was an Establishment Officer, Grade II, at the Central Ordnance Depot, Didcot. I am sure many of the staff now working at Bushfield will remember the amalgamation of R.A.M.C. and A.T.S. Records in 1947 which necessitated the move of R.A.M.C. Records from Gunnersbury Park to Winchester, when Mr. Amos came to Bushfield and assumed duty as Officer-in-Charge, Division II, where he has remained to the present date.

We have a lot to thank Mr. Amos for, particularly at the time we reoccupied Bushfield Camp from Winchester Barracks when he organized a first-class canteen to provide meals for staff, and although he gave up the chairmanship of the Canteen Committee some twelve months ago, the work he put into the organization remains. It may not be generally known

that in many ways he has shown his keen interest in the welfare of staff employed in the Records Office and time and again, when members of the staff have taken suddenly ill, Mr. Amos has shown his thought for others by placing himself and his car at the disposal of the Welfare representative to convey the indisposed member of the staff to his or her home.

Mr. Amos received a presentation from the Records Office staff on his retirement, and he takes with him the best wishes of the Corps.

Mr. W. T. ("Pedlar") Palmer has just completed his service as a civilian clerk in A.M.D. 2 (formerly A.M.D. 1). He joined the R.A.M.C. in 1907 and left with the rank of Warrant Officer, Class II, after twenty-three years' service. He came to A.M.D. in December, 1934, since when he has dealt with the records of literally thousands of medical officers, their promotions, retirements, movements, joys and sorrows, and his fund of Corps knowledge and ability to quote almost chapter and verse on so many old rulings, historical Corps events and so on has been invaluable to numerous officers of the D.Gs. staff. "Yes, sir, I knew his father," is a fairly frequent opening gambit.

During the period 1940 to 1943 he served in the Local Defence Volunteers and Home Guard.

"Pedlar," since his enlistment, has led an active life, but unfortunately, like us all, is getting no younger, and now, "rising seventy," is looking forward to retirement. When this occurs he will be missed by many and a personality will be lost to the Department. Twenty-three years' colour service, and over twenty-one as a civilian clerk, total over forty-four years' Corps service, during which time he has served under no fewer than twelve D.Gs. A grand record of Corps service. Good luck, "Pedlar," and thank you.

STATE REGISTERED NURSE

Eleven other ranks of the Q.A.R.A.N.C. were successful in passing the State Final Examination in October, 1955.

FOR SALE

The following items of officer's uniform are for sale. Inquiries should be addressed to The Adjutant, Depot and T.E., R.A.M.C.: Dress cap, brand new, size 6½ (£6). Service dress cap, brand new, size 6½ (£3). Service dress, good condition, chest 38 in., crutch to foot 28 in. (£2). Officers' shop British Warm No. 2, height 5 ft. 3 in. to 5 ft. 4 in., breast 34 in. to 39 in. (£3). Battledress, size 3, new. Riding boots, military pattern, with trees, as new, size 7. Blue patrols, good condition. Wellingtons, good condition, size 7. Six collars, three shirts.

THE FORCES MOTORING CLUB

We have been asked to direct the attention of our readers to the Forces Motoring Club. The club exists primarily for the advantage of serving members of the Armed Forces and those who, having served, continue to find enjoyment in the company of Service people. It is a non-profit company associated with the R.A.C., and a leaflet giving full particulars may be obtained from the Club, 2 Charterhouse Mews, London, E.C.1.

TRANSFERS OF R.A.M.C. BADGE

Full colour transfers of the Corps Badge are now available from the P.R.I. at the R.A.M.C. Depot. The badge is 4½ in. in height and is ideal for Company notice boards, motor-cars, offices, etc.

Each transfer costs 2s. 6d. and applications for them should be made direct to; P.R.I., R.A.M.C. Depot, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Crookham, Hants.

Applications should be accompanied by a remittance to cover the cost of the transfers ordered.

AT YOUR SERVICE . . .

GALE & POLDEN LTD

THE PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS AND STATIONERS TO THE SERVICES

★ PRINTING

We are specialists in the design of Service Printing—no matter how large or small your requirements our expert knowledge will ensure that the work is correct in every detail. Estimates and samples are all part of the service.

★ DIESTAMPING

Service crest dies are kept in stock and ready for immediate use.

★ BOOKSELLING

Our Service publications are well known throughout the Services. We also stock a large selection of sporting books, general fiction, war stories, etc.

YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT OUR DISPLAYS OF GREETING AND SPECIAL OCCASION CARDS, GIFT STATIONERY, GIFT BOOKS AND FANCY GOODS

GALE & POLDEN LTD

LONDON · ALDERSHOT · PORTSMOUTH · CHATHAM · CAMBERLEY

Under
Royal Patronage

Telephone
Farnborough 303

W. A. DOLLIMORE

MILITARY TAILOR
OUTFITTER
AND
MEDAL SPECIALIST

40 Years' Experience in making Officers' Uniforms

Appointed Official Military Hatter to R.A.M.C.

14 LYNCHFORD ROAD
FARNBOROUGH, HANTS



Scotland's Gift to the World.

Queen Anne
Scotch Whisky

ASK FOR IT AT N.A.A.F.I.

HILL THOMSON & CO. LTD. EDINBURGH Est. 1793

QUEEN ANNE
FINE
SCOTCH WHISKY
HILL THOMSON & CO. LTD.
EDINBURGH
DISTILLED, BLENDED AND BOTTLED IN SCOTLAND

ESTABLISHED
1793

TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SPECIAL RESERVE SCOTCH WHISKY
HILL THOMSON & CO. LTD.
EDINBURGH

DO NOT OPEN
TOUR TO OPEN

Queen Anne
Scotch Whisky

YOU SHOULD OPEN



a private banking account with your Official Pay Agents as well as receive your pay and allowances from them if you wish to take full advantage of their considerable experience in both Banking and Army matters.

Holt's Branch are the Official Pay Agents to the
ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS, the
ROYAL ARMY DENTAL CORPS and the
QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY
NURSING CORPS.

In addition to being thoroughly conversant with all aspects of Army Pay, the Agents can give you an efficient and personal Banking Service which is world-wide, with specialist departments to deal with every Insurance, Income Tax and Investment problem.

GLYN, MILLS & CO. HOLT'S BRANCH

KIRKLAND HOUSE, WHITEHALL, S.W.1

Head Office : 67 Lombard Street, E.C.3

ASSOCIATED BANKS:

THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK LIMITED

Article 12 R. V. 11

Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.

St. George of England. The latter became the emblem of England in the reign of Edward III (1327 - 77) but Richard I had already used it as a personal standard in 1194.¹

These many examples of monastic and other hospitals using the red cross show that it must have been recognised as a medical symbol in mediaeval times.

USE BY CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL

Charing Cross Hospital, founded in 1818, has a red cross pattée on its arms. I have not yet been able to find when this was adopted but it was probably about 1880.

THE RED CROSS AS A PLAGUE SYMBOL

The first plague symbol of which we have any record was probably that used by the Israelites at the time of the Passover. This was, undoubtedly, red as it was made with blood, but was not in the shape of a cross. As recorded in Exodus "and the Lord said unto Moses 'yet will I bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt'" Later the directions were given "they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side parts and on the upper door post of the houses and the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood I will pass you over and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you."¹⁹

MARKING OF INFECTED HOUSES. In the great epidemics of bubonic plague, during the later Middle Ages, signs were used to indicate infected houses. According to Wilson²⁰ plague-infected houses were first marked with a special sign in England in 1518 when a bundle of straw hanging from a pole was used. In September, 1521, however, the following proclamation was made:- "Every person that God has visited with the common sickness shall have a sign of tau, otherwise called St. Anthony's Cross, set up openly upon his door, and to continue XL days." In Paris, too, the "boite de paille" was replaced by a "croix de bois". These crosses were at first blue, an order of 1563 ordered "that there shalbe blew hedless crosses sett up upon the uttermost dore post of every mansion house of this city that hathe of late or shalbe visited this Sommer season with the plague." The crosses were painted on paper and there is a record of Laurence Nasshe, bayly of fynnesbury (Finsbury) having "blew crosses" delivered to him.²¹ There is also an item in the Churchwardens' accounts of St. Margaret's, Westminster, of payments "for payntinge of certain blue crosses to be fixed

Old hospital has gone, but work continues at Netley

On a grey misty winter's day the quiet parkland seems the home of a thousand ghosts, the casualties of a bygone empire.

The old familiar landmarks have gone but to thousands of old soldiers the memories still linger: of hospital ships making their sad passage up Southampton Water, and trains packed with khaki wounded rattling along the line to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

To them the hospital is no more. The giant quarter mile long building, the world's first purpose-

built military hospital, is gone. Only the Royal Chapel, once the centrepiece of the Victorian structure, remains in solitary splendour.

It was a sign of the cost of Britain's Imperial past in terms of human pain and misery and now only a small pile of stone is left.

But Netley Hospital lives on, not only in memories, but in concrete, stone, and people. For within the gaunt remains of the past lies the present hospital, a cluster of single-storey buildings which house a mental hospital for army and navy personnel.

These buildings, built in 1941-42

lie to the north of the old hospital, away from the shore and the ghosts. Built as a skin-disease centre they have been in constant use by the British Army. Even while the Americans drove their vehicles up and down the giant corridors of the old building, these smaller huts were still used by the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Now a psychiatric hospital with 185 beds, the unit covers two blocks, the single-storey wartime buildings, and the old "D" block, now 82-years-old and built as an asylum — complete with high walls and bars on the windows.

Recent trouble spots have produced many casualties. Terrorist action in Aden and recent riots in Northern Ireland are two trouble spots where the bad living — and dying — conditions have taken their toll of men's mental stability.

Once at Netley these men are under the care of 110 trained medical staff, including doctors and nurses plus a further 110 trainees. Discipline is kept to a minimum, and doctors know no barrier between officer and non-commissioned ranks.

The wards are light and pleasant but patients spend little time in bed. They are physically fit and are at liberty to walk the grounds when not engaged in occupational therapy. Occasionally a patient walks out for there are no walls to keep him in.

Interior is light and airy

Neurotic patients are housed in the "new" wing and the more seriously ill, the psychotic patients, are treated in "D" block.

Although an old building, much has been done to improve conditions in "D" block. The interiors are light and airy and of course the bars on the windows have gone.

"I'm going to have the high wall knocked down as well, if I can," remarked Colonel R. Davies.

When a patient goes missing first a check of the block is made, then the grounds, and then if he has yet to be found the local police are informed as well as the Military Police, Naval Patrol and the police force near the absconder's home town.

Patients very rarely leave because they want to get away but because they want to go home to visit family or friends. There are no visiting hours, relatives can see patients at any time and talk to the nursing staff.

The hospital also trains mental nurses for the three services. At the end of their course they sit for the diploma of psychiatric medicine. Doctors are also trained and sit for the diploma of psychiatric medicine. To give them a wide experience as possible, they are also trained at Knowle and St James Hospitals.



Some of the paintings done in the therapy department by the patients, which includes a drawing of the Royal Chapel, in the centre.

with men from Netley, he also takes courses for men wishing to take army examinations who are stationed at Gosport, Marchwood or Winchester.

Great store is set by artistic expression. Be it in wood, metal or paint, patients are encouraged to use their talents.

Sometimes their artistic efforts can reveal causes of their illness. A glance at a series of paintings by psychotic patients often shows a disturbed mind with a pre-occupation for eyes revealing a patient's belief that he is being watched by others.

Many others are encouraged to use their hands to make objects, either from basic materials or from model sets.

by
JAMES CARTER

The hospital is a joint service operation. Although run by the Royal Army Medical Corps, there are naval personnel, both patients, and staff, at Netley.

Commented Colonel Davies: "Every man undergoes stressors and strains, but service life obvi-

ously has a greater effect on some people. There is no man who cannot break-down.

But this place is absolutely perfect for rehabilitation. I don't think there is a better place for our sick servicemen in Britain."

Like many purpose-built military hospitals in this country, Netley was well laid out and the site landscaped. Trees were planted as shrubs and it seems a pity that now they have matured the setting cannot be seen by more patients.

But it was the very design of Netley which was its undoing. The vast Victorian landmark was

never designed from a medical point of view. Florence Nightingale was aghast when she saw the plans and tried to have the design altered to a series of pavilions in which the wounded would be facing south across Southampton Water towards the sun.

But no, even Victoria's reign was riddled with bureaucracy and only slight modifications were added. It cost quarter of a million pounds and Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone in 1856.

Once it was open, she was a constant visitor and the Royal Yacht was often seen moored by the private pier used by hospital ships for many years.

Through the decades the casualties of empire came home to Netley either straight off the troopship at the pier or by train from the docks at Southampton.

Special quarters were built for the families of servicemen in hospital and these are still standing today. Also standing is the original officers' mess, still used as such, and the Royal Chapel.

But empires come and go. The pier and railway disappeared many years ago and troops are flown home today.

Despite attempts to preserve the building, the first blow was struck against the intricate Victorian facade in 1966 and soon all that was left was a pile of granite and the Royal Chapel.

"It was a great blow to the whole of the R.A.M.C. when they pulled the old building down. We have been here for more than 100 years, it was our home."

But the old building was unchristian. Had Florence Nightingale's plans been adopted it may have been in use even to this day," said Colonel Davies.

The vast bleak area surrounding the chapel will soon go too. There are plans in the pipeline to rebuild the front to the chapel and to landscape the area surrounding it to try to preserve the quiet beauty of Netley's 240 acres.

Meanwhile the work at the psychiatric hospital continues, as the servicemen of the 70's fight the old battles against mental stress and fatigue.

Settling helps to cure

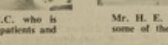
Colonel Davies is convinced that the rolling parkland of Netley is a boon to rehabilitating patients. The quiet beauty which surrounds the hospital helps patients adjust away from the turmoil of active service life.



Major R. E. Curtis, R.A.E.C., officer in charge of the medical training section.



Mr. H. E. Payne of the Art Section displays some of the metal work done in the Smithy shop by the patients.



W.O. H. R. C. Woodford A.C.C. who is responsible for the feeding of the patients and staff.



In the reception hall of the officers' mess is this memorial tablet depicting the work of the Army Medical Department in early campaigns.



The officers' mess which is one of the original buildings still standing.



Medical trainees undergoing practical instruction on a dummy.



Major R. E. Curtis, R.A.E.C., officer in charge of the medical training section.

ies, the Officer Commanding the hospital.

In these buildings the victims of service life are treated. Men on overseas duties, separated from their families, working in hot climates, or in constant danger, sometimes crack under the strain. On average 110 beds are occupied, out of a possible quarter of a million men who, if they go mentally sick, would be sent to Netley.

This is a good record for any organization which does not always work under perfect conditions, and none of the patients are extremely ill. Being in the services any slight change in a man's character or personality would be instantly noticed. Most of the patients at Netley are young men — good material from which the doctors can rebuild character and personality.

The Key to Metrication

Converts from British Measurement to Metric and SI for

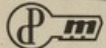
Length - Area - Volume - Capacity - Density - Velocity - Mass - Mass/Length - Pressure, Stress - Work Energy - Quantity of Heat - Temperature, Metric and SI explained, Distance between towns, Basic Tables.

CLOTH BOUND 15 SECTIONS - 8000 CONVERSIONS - 108 PAGES



DESK SIZE 20s. POCKET SIZE 10s.

Available through W. H. SMITH & SON



PENTICE PRESS LTD

120 HIGH STREET WINCHESTER HANTS TELEPHONE: WINCHESTER 63445

Write to the publishers for QUANTITY ORDERS & SPECIFIC USE TABLES

Opening 9th March
HAIR BY
Geoffrey
 OF MAYFAIR
 Geoffrey and Linda are now accepting appointments
10 WEST ST., EMSWORTH
Emsworth 5008

We'll suit you to a TEA!

KEITH SPICER VENDING now introduces 'SOVEREIGN' - the new single beverage machine which serves hot and cold drinks. Why? Because it uses REAL LEAF TEA and, for the first time, authentic BOILING WATER!

A choice of 8 selections of TEA, CHOCOLATE, COFFEE and SOUP give the advantages of LOW COST RENTAL or LEASING - backed by full business and after-sales service at K.S. Vending.

SOVEREIGN SERVICE FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Our range provides any business, large or small, with a machine to meet their needs. **Start or Call** Direct. Machines also available.

KEITH SPICER LIMITED
 Tea and Coffee Importing and Machines since 1924.
32 CLEVELAND ROAD
BOURNEMOUTH
 Phone: **BOURNEMOUTH 37223** for an appointment to call on.

A Division of Keith Spicer. Part of the Group of Bournemouth.

mainly for WOMEN

Young Wives - no mere social club

Why Swanmore has so many qualified first aiders

The name of an organization seldom, if ever, gives a true impression of its activities. Take the Young Wives groups for instance, what do they do, and what object have they in view?

The name would suggest that they are a group of young married women, who, with so much in common, have an occasional "get together" and talk about things of interest to them all. It is quite true that they do have much in common, and the social side of their organization is important, but it is not by any means the most important object.

A few minutes talk with Mrs. Joan Paterson, wife of the Rev. R. G. Paterson (Vicar of Swanmore) put the matter in the right perspective. She is an enthusiastic Young Wife, but when she first came to Swanmore in 1953, no such group existed. Strangely enough the first seed which led to the formation of the Young Wives, it did not take him long to see there was a need for an organization for the younger generation, and it worried him. He talked the matter over with his wife, and a chance remark: "I wish you would have a go at forming something" was really responsible for the formation of Swanmore Young Wives.

SIX FOUNDERS
 Mrs. Paterson took him at his word, and she formed a group with only six members. There are now more than 30 in the group. It was decided to hold afternoon meetings in the Vicarage, but this was not successful. Most of the young wives had young children. There was the problem of collecting them from school, and also the difficulty of having children at home too young for school. What they needed were baby sitters, and what better sitters could be found than the young husbands? Afternoon meetings

Summer, wife of the then Vicar of Alresford. Highlight of this year's programme is a time and talent study which covers a variety of subjects including writing, embroidery, drama, knitting, toy making. The results of this time and talent will be on show at an exhibition at St. Mary's Church Hall, Portsmouth, in May. Organizations are essential to the life of any village, bringing people together and promoting community life. This is an excellent function, but as the Young Wives show, it is only one aspect of an organization.

RECIPES
 Early forest thubarb, mainly from Yorkshire and Cheshire, provides good value for money at a time when ideas for tasty puddings are restricted by choice of ingredients. It should not be peeled, nor over-cooked, and is always delicately flavoured and very tender.

Sprouting broccoli, the white and the purple, help provide variety in vegetables. For top quality the shoots should be young looking and fresh and should snap easily.

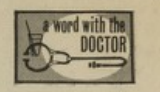


KNITTING PATTERN 2634

This unusual little short-sleeved jumper (above) is designed by Paton and Baldwins in their Piccadilly yarn. It has plain sleeves with a diamond trellis pattern on front and back with decorative bobbles in the centre of each diamond.

The jumper will fit bust sizes 33-34in., 35-36in., and 37-38in.

If you would like the instructions for making this jumper, please write to the following address, enclosing the accompanying coupon and a stamped and addressed foolscap-sized envelope: Hampshire Telegraph, Knitting Pattern 2634, The News Centre, Hilsa, Portsmouth, PO2 9SX.



Spots can help tell your age

A very large number of people get darkish brown spots, usually on the back of the hands, and not because they have been killing in tropical health resorts.

This condition is known as purpura and is most often met with in the form of senile purpura. Senile is rather an elastic term but, in describing senile purpura, the description is fairly accurate. It occurs after the age of about 65, and equally in the two sexes. It is very much grandfather's affliction, if that is not too strong a word.

What happens is that some very small capillaries in exposed parts, such as the back of the hands or forearms, are broken. A minute amount of blood escapes and forms a stain just under the skin. It is thought that these capillaries lose their elasticity and a small strain, or minor injury to the hand results in the fracture of a capillary.

This sort of purpura is of no importance. It occasionally helps a pathologist to decide the age of an unidentified body he is examining. Some rather age-conscious women rather dislike these brown stains and they ask for treatment.

However, these small brown, or reddish spots are not to be dismissed as of no significance if they occur in younger people. Far from it. Purpura is often found before the age of ten, and it is said that 40 per cent. of cases are seen before the age of puberty. Fortunately the majority of these cases clear up in young children.

MEDICAL ADVICE

Purpura is not at all uncommon, either in pregnancy and that is partly why it is much commoner in women than in men after the age of 15. Purpura can follow the taking of a lot of different drugs, especially quinine. It is also a feature of scurvy. Patients who suffer with rheumatism also seem to get purpura more often than those lucky non-rheumatic ones.

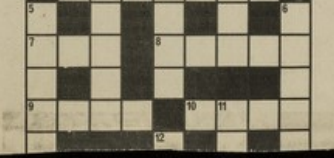
As for treatment, this is varied and depends on the cause. Blood-clotting depends on what is known as the platelets in the blood. There are more than a quarter of a million of them in every mm. of blood and all kinds of differences in quantities, and qualities, can make the platelets ineffective in making the blood clot when it escapes from the

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

Commemorating a revered bishop

YOUR CROSSWORD

Over the centuries many notable buildings have been destroyed by earthquake, eruption, fire or enemy action - but few, surely, can have succumbed to such an unusual disaster as an avalanche of peat.



Such, however, was the downfall of the church depicted on a stamp from the Falkland Islands. The building is Holy Trinity Church, which has a spe-

Co-op

in many parts of the country opportunities for worth-while part-time work are not available.

The results of the two surveys show the pattern of work among women doctors when there is no special policy to retain them in the profession. At present, apart from some courses for the Diploma in Public Health and the Diploma in Psychological Medicine, all higher qualifications leading to consultant and senior status demand a full-time postgraduate training lasting at least seven years, several years of which will require residence in hospital, often in bachelor quarters.

In the Public Health Service part-time workers are often accepted only on a casual basis, a system which is particularly difficult for married women. Few general practitioners avail themselves of regular part-time help from their women colleagues, whose help is often sought when a locum is urgently wanted to meet an emergency.

Mr. Kenneth Robinson (1965), the Minister of Health, has said that it would be a tragedy if, for a woman, marriage and the practice of medicine came to be regarded as incompatible. Subsequently he has said that arrangements are being made to help married women to return to medical work (Hansard, 1966). These courses would be very valuable, but, in addition, women when undergraduates should be encouraged to take a sensible look at their circumstances and plan to make these compatible with their professional ambitions. There are now a few part-time junior hospital posts in the National Health Service, but more opportunities should be available for postgraduate work and postgraduate study on a part-time and non-residential basis.

However, other professions with more flexible staffing establishments for the benefit of married women are still experiencing wastage among their qualified women, and there are indications that many of these women also want to work but experience difficulties. Scarce and expensive domestic help, community attitudes to the working mother, and the existing tax arrangements are some of the factors which limit the married woman's contribution to her profession. The whole problem of wastage in the professions merits further and full exploration.

Summary

Surveys of women doctors conducted by the Medical Practitioners Union and the Medical Women's Federation give similar results.

Nearly 50% of the respondents were in full-time work, 30% in part-time work, and 20% not working. There is a significant increase in the proportion in full-time work 20 years after qualification. About 30% of the women doctors were single, working predominantly in full-time jobs, but among recently qualified married women, with presumably young children, 60% were without professional work. Approximately 1,200, a third of those not fully employed, wished for some or more medical work.

Factors which exerted a favourable influence on the careers of women were possession of a postgraduate qualification and residence in a large town.

It is suggested that the health services should adopt a more flexible attitude to part-time workers, and, as well as at the consultant level, opportunities for part-time employment and study should be available in all grades.

Social factors which affect the employment of all professional women should be urgently examined.

We wish to thank the British Medical Association for financial and other generous help to the Medical Women's Federation; the members of the Federation who organized the survey in its regions; the Medical Practitioners Union for permission to use some of the data from their survey; the secretariat of both the M.W.F. and the M.P.U.; Dr. E. R. Bransby for his valuable help and information; Miss Joan Walford for statistical assistance; Professor R. S. F. Schilling for his advice; and, not least, the medical women of the United Kingdom, most of whom completed and returned both the M.W.F. and M.P.U. questionnaires.

REFERENCES

- Hansard, House of Commons, 26 January 1966.
 Jefferys, M., Gauvain, S., and Gulesen, O. (1965). *Lancet*, 1, 1381.
 Kahan, J., and Macfaul, N. (1962). *Middx Hosp. J.*, 62, 192.
 Lawrie, J. E., and Newhouse, M. L. (1965). *Brit. med. J.*, 1, 524.
 Lunn, J. E. (1964). *Med. Care*, 2, 197.
 Robb-Smith, A. H. T. (1962). *Lancet*, 2, 1158.
 Robinson, Kenneth (1965). *Brit. med. J.*, 2, 1256.
 Whitfield, A. G. W. (1964). *Lancet*, 1, 374.

MEDICAL HISTORY

Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT]

It has recently been announced that the old building of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley is to be pulled down by the Ministry of Public Building and Works. This remarkable edifice was threatened with demolition before it had even been completed. The need for so vast a military hospital arose in the Crimean War, when the invaliding hospital at Fort Pitt, Chatham, and the Royal Military Asylum in Southampton proved inadequate. There was a special debate in the House of Commons; a Select Committee chose the site for its convenience to transport ships coming up Southampton Water; and on 19 May 1856 Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone, her first official act after the end of the war. The *Illustrated London News* records that the Queen was shown the plans "by Mr. Mennis, architect of the War Department," and "Her Majesty, having signified her approval of them, they were placed in the copper box prepared for the purpose, together with the coins, medals, and cross, and the vellum document recording the event." Should this box now come to light, it will be interesting to see if the cross is a Victoria Cross, for it had only recently been instituted. For the salute fired at this point "a gun of the *Hardy* prematurely went off; two seamen were blown to pieces, and several others were injured,"

but the celebrations carried on undampened, to end with fireworks in the evening.

Someone is said to have compared the splendour of the proposed building with the simplicity of the then newly erected Osborne House: "the Sovereign, her eyes filling with tears, observed, 'I am only too glad to think, if indeed it be the case, that my poor brave soldiers will be more comfortably lodged than I am myself.'" Queen Victoria's complacency on this score was soon to be shattered, for in September 1856 she first met Florence Nightingale. Mrs. Woodham Smith² describes the result. "'She put before us,' wrote the Prince in his diary that night, 'all the defects of our present military hospital system and the reforms that are needed.' 'I wish we had her at the War Office,' wrote the Queen to the Duke of Cambridge, the Commander-in-Chief." The Secretary of State at the War Office was Lord Panmure, a diehard and a procrastinator. At the Queen's command he met Miss Nightingale at Balmoral and offered to send her the plans of Netley, so that she might "make observations." He intended a compliment, but she took up the matter with typical thoroughness, prepared a report stuffed with statistics condemning the plans root and branch, and suggesting alternatives. Only then did Lord Panmure discover that building had gone so far that radical alterations would be impossible: he tried to soothe her—her objections were no doubt sound, but there were "susceptibilities" to be considered. She turned to the Prime

minister, an old friend, Lord Palmerston, who wrote to Panmure: "It seems to me that at Netley all considerations of what would best tend to the comfort and recovery of the patients has been sacrificed to the vanity of the architect, whose sole object has been to make a building which would cut a dash when looked at from the Southampton river. . . . Pray, therefore, stop all progress in the work till the matter can be duly considered." Lord Panmure offered to incorporate some of Miss Nightingale's improvements, but it would cost £70,000 to do as she wished and begin afresh. Despite Lord Palmerston's support Miss Nightingale was defeated, and the original plan went forward, though with modifications she had suggested. Whether for this reason or because of its size the building took seven years to finish and cost £350,000. Miss Nightingale's main objection was that all the beds (over 1,000) were to be in one huge building rather than in separate pavilions.

decoration, with over 200 arched windows along the façade, elaborate towers, and a central dome. Now that the building is unoccupied and—since a disastrous fire a few years ago—unusable the effect of these luxuriant details is gloomy and bizarre. It is as though a Venetian palace had been erected on the scale of Versailles and with traditional English materials.

For nearly a century Netley received soldiers wounded or sick from colonial campaigns and major wars. Casualties arrived from October to May, and for the rest of the year Netley was the venue for field training. It was also the home of two of Florence Nightingale's projects. The Army Medical School was transferred from Chatham and remained at Netley until it moved to London in 1905, and for a much longer time it was



The Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley (by permission of the *Illustrated London News*).

It may be significant that when "D" block was built for mental patients in 1866 it had separate pavilion wards connected by corridors.

The main building is over a quarter of a mile long, with a cavernous corridor on all three floors joining the 138 wards. Miss Nightingale objected that it was these corridors and not the wards which enjoyed the view over Southampton Water. There is a legend, never confirmed, that the building was planned for a different site overseas. The central block contains offices and nursing quarters, and a grand entrance hall with a double staircase, and originally there was a large swimming-pool, which was later converted into a theatre. Behind this lies the Royal Chapel, which also is of immense size (said to seat 900), and contains many interesting memorials which enshrine the history of the Army Medical Services. Fortunately this is not to be demolished. Further behind the main building are two large squares, surrounded by sergeants' and corporals' messes, stores, laundries, and kitchens. Crowning the self-sufficiency of this community is the special railway line from Netley station to platforms at the back of the building, so that ambulance trains from Portsmouth and Southampton may run right to the hospital. In the pleasantly wooded grounds, running to over 200 acres, are officers' messes, soldiers' quarters, a cemetery, and later single-story wards to increase accommodation in wartime. A pier extending into Southampton Water was destroyed only 10 years ago.

The style as well as the size of the building is striking. It has the solidity of red brick and Portland stone, plate-glass and mahogany, coupled with an Italianate extravagance of

also the centre for nursing training. Queen Victoria always took a close interest in the hospital and paid it frequent visits.

Such a visit is described in the *Illustrated London News* of December 1898. "At the bedside of many a one, or beside his chair, the Queen spoke kindly words of sympathy and encouragement, gave her hand to one and another, or laid it on his fevered brow, and was rewarded by their grateful thanks and blessings." "After passing through the medical wards the Queen was shown by the surgeons, with proper explanation, the optical apparatus for discovering the position of bullets in the flesh by the Röntgen rays photographic process; and she allowed a photograph of her own hand to be taken by these means." On another visit the Queen paid special attention to Sergeant Boseley, who, losing an arm and a leg in the assault on Ladysmith, said: "Roll me over and go on firing."

In 1944 Netley was handed over to the American Army for a year. Now the British Army has finally relinquished this mid-Victorian mammoth which means so much to them. No. 4 Company R.A.M.C. will continue as the centre of both the Army's and the Royal Navy's psychiatric services, but many will regret the disappearance of the original Royal Victoria Hospital, a relic of our imperial epoch, when there could be no question about our commitments east of Suez or for that matter anywhere else.

I wish to thank Major-General R. E. Barnsley, C.B., M.C., for his help in the preparation of this article.

REFERENCE

- ¹ *Sunday Strand*, 1900, 2, 46.
- ² Woodham-Smith, C., *Florence Nightingale, 1820-1910*, 1950. Constable, London.

Demolition of
The Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley
September 16th 1966

Contractors

William Perry's Demolition and Plant Hire (Southampton) Limited
Southern Sand and Ballast Limited





Future of Netley, Shorncliffe
and the AMRU.

(AmS I letter) 1960

DEGAMS
 Director of Psychiatry
 Adviser in Physical Medicine
AMD 3

Future of Netley, Shorncliffe and the AMRU

1. A meeting to consider the future of the above units was held under the Chairmanship of DEGAMS on 12th January, 1960. All addressees and AMD 1 were represented. The following are the major points which emerged:-

2. Shorncliffe/Netley

- (a) All were of the opinion that Netley and Shorncliffe should be combined as one unit to be called the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe (of approximately 200 beds) because of the following advantages:-
 - (i) A unit of this size (200 beds) is a " worthwhile " one and stood a much better chance of being accepted (N.B. we are under pressure to substitute an MRS for the Military Hospital Shorncliffe currently planned for 91 beds).
 - (ii) The combined unit meets the modern concept of treating mentally ill patients in general hospitals.
 - (iii) The combined unit will provide the psychiatric wards with the specialist backing of a general hospital.
 - (iv) It will economise in manpower.
- (b) Possible disadvantages such as distance from Southampton and Wroughton (the terminals for sea and air evacuation), liaison with the Navy and Civil Health Authorities were discussed. These were felt to be negligible compared with the benefits to be obtained.
- (c) The possibility of including the AMRU on the Shorncliffe site was also discussed. The Adviser in Physical Medicine strongly opposed this on the grounds detailed in para 3 below plus the stigma of being associated with mental cases which he felt would have an adverse effect.

3. AMRU at Woolwich

- (a) Because the AMRU at Shorncliffe was not acceptable to the Adviser in Physical Medicine alternative proposals were considered -the most practical being Woolwich.
- (b) The Adviser in Physical Medicine wished for the AMRU to be located on the site of the " Shop " for the following reasons:-
 - (i) It was a good site with playing fields and a Swimming Bath already available.
 - (ii) It was adjacent to the Royal Herbert Hospital which is the chief source of his patients and which would provide specialist orthopaedic advice as required.
 - (iii) It was close enough to the Royal Herbert Hospital for some overheads to be shared e.g. the Administration of the AMRU Staff.
- (c) The following factors arise:-

DCAMS
 Director of Psychiatry
 Adviser in Physical Medicine
AMD 3

Future of Netley, Shorncliffe and the AMRU

1. A meeting to consider the future of the above units was held under the Chairmanship of DCAMS on 12th January, 1960. All addressees and AMD 1 were represented. The following are the major points which emerged:-

2. Shorncliffe/Netley

(a) All were of the opinion that Netley and Shorncliffe should be combined as one unit to be called the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe (of approximately 200 beds) because of the following advantages:-

- (i) A unit of this size (200 beds) is a " worthwhile " one and stood a much better chance of being accepted (N.B. we are under pressure to substitute an MRS for the Military Hospital Shorncliffe currently planned for 91 beds).
- (ii) The combined unit meets the modern concept of treating mentally ill patients in general hospitals.
- (iii) The combined unit will provide the psychiatric wards with the specialist backing of a general hospital.
- (iv) It will economise in manpower.

(b) Possible disadvantages such as distance from Southampton and Wroughton (the terminals for sea and air evacuation), liaison with the Navy and Civil Health Authorities were discussed. These were felt to be negligible compared with the benefits to be obtained.

(c) The possibility of including the AMRU on the Shorncliffe site was also discussed. The Adviser in Physical Medicine strongly opposed this on the grounds detailed in para 3 below plus the stigma of being associated with mental cases which he felt would have an adverse effect.

3. AMRU at Woolwich

(a) Because the AMRU at Shorncliffe was not acceptable to the Adviser in Physical Medicine alternative proposals were considered -the most practical being Woolwich.

(b) The Adviser in Physical Medicine wished for the AMRU to be located on the site of the " Shop " for the following reasons:-

- (i) It was a good site with playing fields and a Swimming Bath already available.
- (ii) It was adjacent to the Royal Herbert Hospital which is the chief source of his patients and which would provide specialist orthopaedic advice as required.
- (iii) It was close enough to the Royal Herbert Hospital for some overheads to be shared e.g. the Administration of the AMRU Staff.

(c) The following factors arise:-

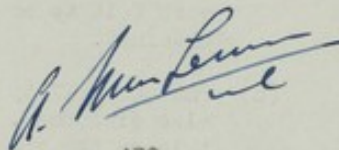
- (i) If the Woolwich site is asked for we will be under heavy pressure from Q and WH 2 to combine the unit with the Royal Herbert Hospital to save on overheads.
- (ii) Such a combination would achieve very considerable economy in manpower.
- (iii) Any combination will affect not only the long term plans for the Royal Herbert but also possibly the work now planned for the accommodation of the Millbank patients.
- (iv) Manpower is very scarce and is hardly sufficient to staff an independent unit.

4. Summary

- (a) Shorncliffe/Wetley A good case exists for such a combined unit.
- (b) AMRU Woolwich A good case exists for this unit to be located at Woolwich but the crux is, will or will it not be combined with the Royal Herbert Hospital.

5. Action

- (a) Decisions are required on (a) and (b).
- (b) Depending on these decisions cases will be submitted to Q and WH.



ADG

AND 1

14 January, 1960.

RESTRICTED

V/ / (REGT) (Pages)
NOTIFIED IN A.C.I.
EFFECTIVE DATE

The information given in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press, or to any persons not authorised to receive it.

A Military Hospital

90/Mod/Surg. beds

234 Rehabilitation beds and

100 bedded Psychiatric Wing

(All appointments in this establishment are to be RAMC unless otherwise stated).

PROVIDES FOR

HIGHER Establishment
LOWER

SUMMARY

OFFICERS Male	19
OTHER RANKS Male	194
TOTAL	
ATTACHED —	
OFFICERS Female	32
Civs OTHER RANKS	134
TOTAL ATTACHED	379
WHEELED VEHICLES (EXCLUDING M/C AND TRAILERS)	
TRACKED VEHICLES	
TRAILERS	

File

DETAIL	File									Remarks	
	OFFICERS	W.Os. I	W.Os. II	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS		TOTAL
Headquarters											
Officer Commanding	1									1	
Admin Officer	1									1	
Quartermaster	1									1	
R.S.M.		1								1	
Steward			1							1	
Clerks				1	1	2		2		6	
Clerical Assistants									2	2	
Typists									2	2	
Dispenser				1	2					3	
Nursing Orderlies for duty as											
General Dutymen						1		10	17	38	
Dispensary/Mod Stores									1	1	
Telephone									5	5	
Sanitary Duties						1				1	
Kitchen Orderlies									7	7	
Dining Room									8	8	

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.Os. 1.	W.Os. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
Wardmasters				1	1	1				3	
Postal Duties							1			1	
Medical Centre						1		1		2	
Storemen in											
Linen Store					1			1	1	3	
Pack Store						1			1	2	
Stewards Store							1		1	2	
Acc Store					1				2	3	
Rehab. Clothing Store				1					1	2	
Cardroom									1	1	
Central Delivery Teams									4	4	
Total Headquarters	3	1	1	4	6	7	2	14	53	91	
Attached											
ACC											
Spec. Messing Officer	1									1	
Hospital Cooks				1	3	2	6			12	
R.A.P.C.					1	1				2	
Total Attached	1			1	1	4	2	6		15	
Total H.Q. inc. Attached	4	1	1	5	7	11	4	20	53	106	

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.Os. 1.	W.Os. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
Med/Surg. Div											
Spec.	3									3	
G.M.O.	2									2	
Nursing Orderlies					1	3	1	12		17	
Operating Theatre Techs.						1		2		3	
Radiographers					1	1		2		4	
Physiotherapists					1	1			2	4	also for Rehab.
Laboratory					1					1	
Clerks									3	3	
Wardmaids									6	6	
Central Sterile Supply					1	1	1			3	
Total	5				5	6	2	17	11	46	
Attached											
QARANC											
Matron	1									1	
Dep/Matron Sister Tutor	1									1	
Sisters	15									15	(4 SCM)
Theatre Sister	1									1	
Total Attached	18									18	
Total Med/Surg Div inc Attached	23				5	6	2	17	11	64	

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.Os. 1.	W.Os. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
AMRU Wing											
Specialists <i>one who w/CR APTC</i>	3									3	
Training Officer Non-Med	1									1	
Duty NCO			1							1	
Clerks									2	2	
Rec/Therapy Rooms							1			1	
Plaster/Treatment/Rooms						1		2		3	
Total	4	1				1	1	2	2	11	
Attached											
Inf											
General Inst. Duties					2					2	
R.A.R.C.					1					1	
A.P.T.C.											
Instructors					15					15	
Any Arm											
<i>Patients coord.</i>						1	3	6	3	13	
General duty men								5		5	
Civilians -											
Typists									1	1	
Woodwork Instructor									1	1	
Occ. Therapist									1	1	
Asst. Occ. Therapist									1	1	
Rec/Therapy Rooms									2	2	
Total Attached					18	1	3	11	9	42	
Total AMR Wing	4	1			18	2	4	13	11	55	

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.Os. 1.	W.Os. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
Psychiatric Div. -											
Rehabilitation Section -											
Social worker									1	1	
Occ. therapist									1	1	
Psychologist									1	1	
R.N.O. for R.N.C.			1							1	
Carpenter & Joiner									1	1	
Total Rehabilitation Section			1						4	5	
Psychotic Wing -											
Major	1									1	
Maj/Capt or Sub	1									1	
Clerks RANC							1	1		2	
MACs as -											
Instructor			1							1	
Wardmasters				2						2	
R.N.Co.				1	1	4	3	31		40	
Total Psychotic Wing	2		1	3	1	4	4	32		47	
Psychoneurotic Wing -											
Major	1									1	
Maj/Capt or Sub	1									1	
Clerks RANC							1	2		3	
ENCOs for duty as -											
Wardmasters				2						2	
ENCOs					1	2	1	7		11	
Total Psychoneurotic Wing	2			2	1	2	1	9		18	
Total Psychiatric Division	4		2	5	2	6	5	41		70	

4 x 62

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.Os. 1.	W.Os. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
Attached -											
RANC					2					2	
APTC					2					2	
QARANC											
Matron	1									1	
Dep. Matron	1									1	
Sisters	11									11	
Sister Tutor	1									1	
Total Attached	14				2					16	
Total Psychiatric Div.	18		2	5	4	6	6	41	4	86	
HQ Coy RANC											
Company Commander	1									1	
C.M.	1									1	
R.S.M.		1								1	
Clerks				1		1		2	3	7	
Duty NCO						1				1	
NCOs for duty as -											
Coy Clothing Store					1				2	3	
Acc/Bedd. Store						1			2	3	
Ration Stores						1			1	2	
General duty men									10	10	
Hygiene & Sanitation						1				1	
Total RANC	2	1		1	1	5		2	18	30	

DETAIL	OFFICERS	W.O.s. 1.	W.O.s. 2.	S/SGTS.	SGTS.	CPLS.	L/CPLS.	PRIVATES	CIVILIANS	TOTAL	Remarks
Officers Mess Staff											
Mess Steward									1	1	
Mess Orderlies									2	2	
Cooks									3	3	
Batmen									7	7	
Sisters Mess Staff											
Housekeeper									1	1	
House Orderlies									5	5	
Mess Orderlies									2	2	
Cooks									3	3	
Sgts Mess Staff											
Mess Caterer									1	1	
Mess Orderlies									2	2	
Cooks									3	3	
R & File Mess											
Kitchen Orderlies									3	3	
Dining Room Orderlies									4	4	
Cooks ACC						1	1	1		3	
TOTAL						1	1	1	37	40	
TOTAL Coy & Hospital		51	2	4	11	35	31	17	96	134	379

FOOD HANDLERS. - POLICY.

NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THE COMPANY OFFICE.

Vestel

13-11-63

100-2000

ES I - 504

R. 1111

'Echo' Letter-box**R.V.H. NETLEY—MODERNISE
EXISTING BUILDING**

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo"

THANK you for the time and space allowed in Letter-box on the topic of Netley Hospital. The response and interest shown by many readers is most gratifying.

I too, would like to see a super new hospital here, but not at the expense of the old building—surely a compromise could be envisaged—as in the case of Netley Castle—where past and present relate so beautifully.

In view of the growing interest in 19th century architecture, wouldn't it be more realistic to modernise the existing building; the shell of which is in excellent condition.

Rumour has had it for years that the place should have been built in India—that it's built the wrong way round and that the wards are sunless etc.—people should stop and think before they repeat these untruths, for a little research proves all such rumour a matter of conjecture.

For a start the R.V.H. was designed by Mennie, an Englishman, for England. Secondly the famous "corridors" are not really corridors at all, but generous balconies that run almost the full

length of the building for the purpose of providing convalescent space in all weathers. (What's the use of balconies at the back?)

The wards are not dark and hidden from the sun—from outside they may appear so, because the glass in the wards door's (three to each ward, French window style) on the ground floor, have been painted over with dark green paint—why? No one seems to know. On the second and third floors the sun streams into the wards through the balcony windows.

On a recent visit, the first thing that struck us was the warmth of the place, due probably to the thickness of the walls (reputed to be four feet deep in places). Patients during the First World War and later, tell me they were never cold in winter and never too hot in the summer, and that most of them were happy and grateful to be nursed back to health at such a congenial place.

Not With all due respect and consideration, any other building here would be completely out of character. The R.V.H. has served the nation well in the past, it should now be allowed to serve us as well in the future.—ANNE NEAL (Penshurst, Netley Abbey).

**MPs ON NEED
FOR MEDICAL
TEACHING**

MR. DAVID PRICE (Cons, Eastleigh) said in the House of Commons, yesterday, that the Wessex Region was unique in not having a teaching hospital in its area. He raised the subject of the need for one in the adjournment debate.

"There is no doubt that the region suffers badly from the absence of a teaching hospital in an area that is already involved at a high level of research into many social and national medical problems," he said.

He suggested that the Wessex area was ideal for one of the proposed four new teaching hospitals.

"Active research is always necessary and, apart from teaching undergraduates from Southampton University, who already worked closely with the Regional Board, a teaching hospital would help to knit more closely together new general practitioners, midwives and many other sections of the medical profession."

"FAR-REACHING"

"Apart from the bearing it

would have on nursing recruitment, the standard of nursing would materialise to far-reaching results.

"Wessex is a fast growing area of two million people and, fortunately, we have not been included in a region such as the South-East where 17 to 18 million inhabitants reside.

"This is the type of area that is too large for proper progress, but the authorities realise there was, and still is, a need for a central Southern region."

Mr. Price concluded by suggesting that the Minister should consider a speedy decision in the matter.

"STRONG CASE"

"We must know if we are to be allowed this facility," he said. "There is a strong case that the region is unique in that it has already been able to achieve a high level of work without the benefit of a teaching hospital."

Sir John Fletcher-Cooke (Cons, Southampton Test) said there were nine post-graduate medical centres in the Wessex Region. One-quarter of the capital grants came from the Nuffield Foundation.

The fact that the centres had been spread throughout the region had meant that doctors were brought in closer touch with each separate area that they were in.

"There are signs that there is provision for medical training and medical education for doctors at all stages of development in medicine in the region."

He asked the Minister if the two new hospitals planned for Southampton, at a cost of £13 million, would be used for medical teaching.

VITAL

"It is vital that a decision should be taken on this as soon as possible."

He suggested that incentives should be given to encourage doctors and future trainees to consider medical education outside the large centres, such as London, to where costs would be cheaper. Mr. Kenneth Robinson, Minister of Health, said that until a decision was made to establish a medical school in the Wessex Region, the need for teaching hospitals did not arise.

He said that the one would have to follow the other and that many factors would have to be considered beforehand, such as hospital facilities and so on.

In the current review on medical education, the arguments advanced in favour of a teaching hospital in the Wessex Region will certainly not be overlooked."

**Soton 'exile's'
view**

As an old Southampton plumber of many years (now plumbing in Beverly Hills) it was with a sigh of "at last" that I read in the "Echo" that the old Netley Hospital was to be closed.

How many hours I have spent fighting the ancient dilapidated, unsanitary mess that passed for plumbing in both the Royal South Hants and Netley Hospitals I dread to recall. Trying to get it in some sort of order, trying to keep the smells to a minimum, trying to stop leaks and just plain trying to get it to work. Why there were no large scale epidemics every summer only God could tell.

By all means get the bulldozers to work on both hospitals, then, as W. R. Slade suggested ("Echo" February 12) for the price of a couple of subs we could, if we had a mind to, build a wonderful piece of architecture on the old Netley Hospital site which would be a reminder to all of the millions of foreigners travelling up and down the Solent that in the United Kingdom a person receives the medical attention he needs, not the medical attention he can afford.—

PAT WHITE, (3532, Ashwood-ave, Mar Vista, Los Angeles, California, USA.)

Ex-nurse's plea

Much has been written concerning the demolition of R.V. Hospital, Netley. May I beg the favour to add my plea?

It has been noted that Florence Nightingale suffered disappointment at the present structure; one can assume, that had she been with us today she would have had little to add or take away from the plan visualised by your correspondent Mrs. Ann Neal to reconstruct, or rebuild the hospital to meet present day needs.

With the urgency for more hospital accommodation is it not our debt to all who gave so freely, not counting the cost, to safeguard our heritage?

We can only trust it will not be a vain hope that the powers-that-be, will reconsider favourably, and not let the mundane things of life obscure so much that is beautiful and necessary to well-being.

So let the bugle sound for this little band of crusaders in their effort to save R.V. Hospital, and to evoke the shade of a triumphant lady with her lamp, shining more brightly, not for its destruction, but its re-birth to her likeness.

Countless numbers in the future, as in the past, may have cause to be thankful to the seers.—**EX, V.A.D. R. V. Hospital, Netley, 1914-1918.** (Name and address supplied to the Editor.)

It's the **T**ALK of OTTON

By A. L. W.

THE 19th century was the great era of the poetic bard. Never before... never again, will quite so different verse be composed by... representative in this age, the Rev. ... ergyman, who wrote what he ... main one being the story of



Work has started, as shown here, on the new railway at Hounsdon and end through Hounsdon to Atharst. road, Hounsdon, their way home from "the second of a series of entertainments."

Until the barren honour's gained
Of flaunting, for a day, or hour,
Our colours from the highest
tower."

Not the sort of writing to make
a person popular in those days.

Started some arguments?

"MODERN" poets too, those
writing in the 1890s that is,
are thus advised:

"Spun fine-spun sentences that
weave
No web of thought, but only
leave
The reader, wasting toil and
time,
To find what is not in the
rhyme—
The thought that makes such
great pretence
Of being so profound,
The fine-tweaked poetic sense,
That calls for much so sound."

If the Rev. J. Johnstone did
read extracts from his verse about
that far away evening in the
winter of 1880 there were probably
many political arguments that de-
veloped among the audience on

Cricket challenge

IF you see your local parish
councilor sweating it out on a
cross-country run, or trying some
of those quick bending exercises,
you may wonder what he is train-
ing for.
The answer is that he is getting
fit for a cricket match to be

Nine members of the 15-strong
King Parish Council have so far
agreed to take part, which shows
just how strong is the hold of
England's traditional game.
One member discussing the
Council's chances suggested: "We

SAFEWAY



Safeway Superb
PORK CHOPS

RIB
CHOPS lb. 5'4

LOIN
CHOPS lb. 5'8

English Bramley
APPLES 2lb. bag 1'3

COOKING OIL 1 pt. SAVE 6d. 2'3 1 qt. SAVE

Marrowfat PEAS 19oz. SAVE 3'1d. 9d. SAVE 10oz.

THE ABOVE OFFER

plus!

NESCAFE or **MAXWELL**

SOUP HEINZ CREAM of 15oz. SAVE 2d.

IT'S S
for value

RITZ
CRACK
Armour
PEAC

NETLEY'S 'PANDORA'S BOX' IS SHINY BRIGHT

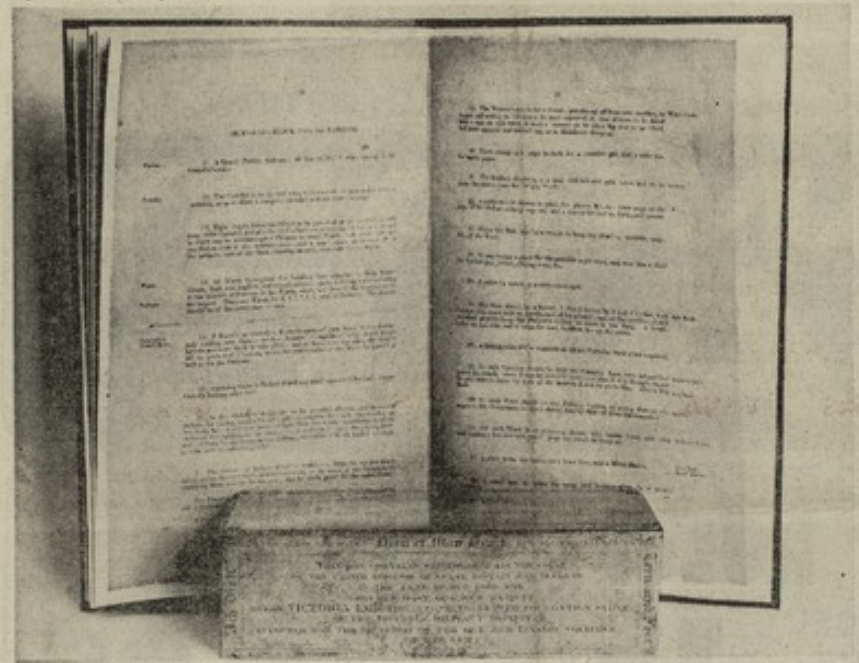
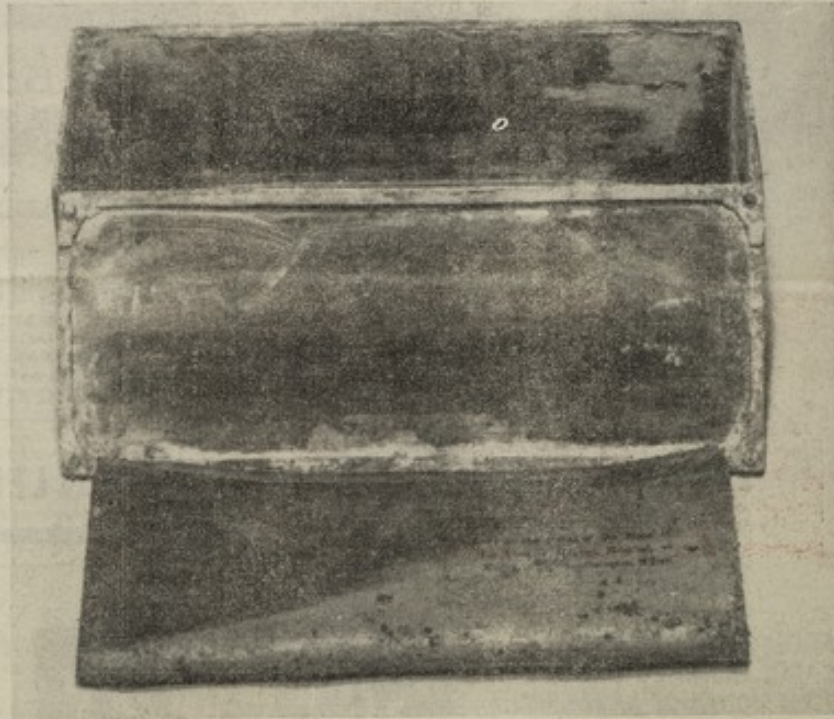
"Echo" Staff Reporter

WHEN the foundation stone of Victoria Military Hospital at Netley was laid by Queen Victoria in 1856, a shining copper casket was placed beneath the stone and, as most people know, now that the hospital is being demolished, this casket was recovered last month when the stone was lifted.

The box contained the prototype Victoria Cross, a Crimean medal, coins of the realm and papers.

Black and green with age and verdigris, the box presented a sorry sight and the papers were also stained and stuck together.

The casket and the papers were handed over to Southampton Corporation—the box went to the City museums department and



the papers to the Civic Record Office.

Now the box, a shining copper again, and the papers, carefully and meticulously cleaned, repaired and bound for protection, have been taken back to Netley and handed over to Col. J. F. D. Murphy, officer commanding the present nearby Royal Victoria Hospital.

SUPERB JOB

Craftsmen in the two Southampton departments have done a superb job of restoration work.

The casket was cleaned and repaired by Mr. H. Duffield, technical assistant in the museum department—the seams had been forced apart by damp. The inscription can now be read clearly.

Mr. G. A. Wilson, bookbinder-repairer in the Record Office, found the papers damp and stained with copper.

It was a difficult task to ease the pages apart before they could be dried and bound together.

The papers proved to be a copy of the prayers used at the foundation stone laying ceremony, a programme for the visit, a copy of the report which led to the building of the hospital and a

detailed description of the proposed building.

DOCUMENTS MISSING

According to the programme there should have been a parchment bearing the signatures of the Queen, the Prince Consort and the Secretary of State, but this document could not be found.

It may have disintegrated through dampness.

The accompanying photographs illustrate graphically how the casket and folded documents looked before and after restoration—a fine piece of restoration work by Southampton craftsmen.

'Frightened to death' by car drive

A YOUNG man told magistrates at Overton yesterday how he was "frightened to death" on Guy Fawkes Night when a friend drove him in a sports car.

His friend, John Frederick Cornish, of Foxdown Place, Overton, was fined £30 after being convicted of careless driving. He pleaded "Not guilty."

Colin Kebby, of The Bungalow, Freefolk Wood, near Micheldever Station, said he and another friend were passengers in a Sunbeam Alpine being driven by Cornish between Longparish and Whitchurch.

ENDED IN CRASH

"He was driving far too fast, and dangerously," said Kebby. "So I switched off the ignition three times."

Sgt. Desmond Ford said the car eventually crashed in Whitchurch, hitting a fence and then colliding with a house.

No one was hurt, but the car was badly damaged.

Kebby was charged with switching off the ignition, so causing Cornish to be without proper control of the car. After pleading "Not guilty," he was convicted, and was given a conditional discharge.



Mr. B. Chubb, assistant education officer, speaking at the annual dinner of the Totton Further Education Centre.

—Photo: Longman, Hythe.



SAIL TO A NEW LIFE IN CANADA

by the
m/s ALEXANDER PUSHKIN

Fully air-conditioned and stowaged this 19,000-ton ship maintains a regular monthly service from

LONDON to QUEBEC & MONTREAL

1967 SAILING DATES
APRIL 13, MAY 21, JUNE 21, AUGUST 2
SEPTEMBER 8, OCTOBER 12,
Special Emigrant fare from £67/10/0

BALTIC STEAMSHIP CO.

Apply your local Travel Agent or
STELP & LEIGHTON LTD

30-33 Fenchurch Buildings, London E.C.3 Telephone: ROYAL 3111

SHOP AND SAVE HAVE YOUR CARDS PUNCHED EACH TIME YOU SHOP SAFEWAY. REMEMBER CARDS WILL

SAFEWAY

All This Week
BIG - BIG VALUES

Shopping

Just Look at the Savings!

JANUARY SALE!

JANUARY SALE

ROLLS
CEL **1/2**

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE



RIBENA
BLACKCURRANT
HEALTH DRINK

5/1

Economy
17 1/2 fld. oz. Size

3/11

SAFEWAY JANUARY SALE

KELLOGGS **CORNFLAKES**

1/8

1/6

12 oz.
Pkt.

JANUARY SALE

SALE

MEMORIES OF 'TOYTOWN' HOSPITAL

INTO the hands of a Devonshire antique dealer came two bulky photograph albums. He passed them on to the matron of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley. As a result a pictorial record of the Red Cross Hospital, which once spread itself in the grounds at Netley to take First World War wounded, is preserved for all time.

The photographs run into thousands and illustrate the great work of a hospital that disappeared from the Netley scene while the old Royal Victoria nearby was still in its prime.

By "Echo" Staff Reporter
GEORGE CHASTNEY

They were neatly mounted in the albums by Lady Emily Anne Crooke-Lawless, wife of the Red Cross Hospital's commandant, Surgeon Lieut.-Col. Sir Warren Crooke-Lawless. Into the albums, also, went other mementoes of the hospital—letters, newspaper cuttings, social invitations, greetings cards, signatures.

There was a full report of a Red Cross official who visited the hospital on November 7, 1914 during its construction.

"The hospital has the general appearance of a fortress made up of grey built arranged with great formality, in a meadow beyond Netley," he said. It was essentially a field hospital, capable of being readily moved. There would be 25 beds and beds for 500 patients.

The staff, under Sir Warren, consisted of 18 medical officers, 60 female nurses, a matron, 20 quaternaries, and 120 NCOs and men. "The Red Cross store, managed by Lady Lawson and Mrs. Miller, is a model of efficiency and order," wrote the official.

GUNSHOT WOUNDS

"The wounded are brought into Netley by a special ambulance train, thence they are transported by stretcher to the hospital...

war. Newspaper cuttings record how Indian soldiers, unconscious about their wounds, were a little upset about the loss of their goggles (head-dress).

"They were not at all enthusiastic about the head wraps provided as a substitute," it states. "Hearing of this Queen Alexandra at once sent 400 yards of lawn muslin for new goggles." Her intentions failed, however, the being told who sent the muslin, the Indians carefully packed them away for safekeeping.

"MANY TEARS SHED"

Another nation well represented at the hospital was Japan. A relief corps, consisting of two medical officers, secretary, interpreter and 22 trained nurses were sent by the Japanese Red Cross for a year's work.

When the time came to say goodbye to the corps, an English nursing sister, Sister Naser, wrote: "There were many tears shed and the little nurses refused to be comforted... they have endeared themselves to us all by their charming manners and kindly ways."

A patient wrote a farewell note in honour of the corps' chef, Dr. Jino Huzaki. Part of the chorus went: "He's of Japanese nationality, he's a man of wonderful capacity."

Lady Crooke-Lawless's albums

from being discarded, this added zest to their endeavours to "keep out on top."

LIGHTER MOMENTS

There were lighter moments, too, for the staff, with off-duty social engagements, which included balls given by Sir Warren and Lady Crooke-Lawless, at the nearby Royal Victoria Hospital, and plays performed by nursing staff for the patients.

The camera was not again at the Red Cross Hospital when the war ended on November 11, 1918. Huge flags blocked the gate house, and a postcard entitled: "In reality, great" captures wounded soldiers pouring out from the lists into the roadway.

Sir Warren and Lady Crooke-Lawless were recorded as being among those present at a victory matinee at Southampton's Palace Theatre. "Southampton has witnessed many victory and thanksgiving processions," stated a newspaper cutting. "But the most memorable of all perhaps was the march of the Netley wounded to the victory matinee... headed by the United States Naval Band."

The following year the Red Cross Hospital was taken over by the War Office. On May 9, 1919, Queen Alexandra wrote of the closure of the hospital, which by that time had 1,500 beds. During its 4 1/2



King George V, Queen Mary and Princess Mary in 1917 paid a visit to three of Netley's hospitals—the Royal Victoria, the Welsh and the Red Cross. Caption to this picture reads: "When leaving Netley the King and Queen expressed a wish to see Cpl. McClean, of the London Scottish, who is a patient in the Red Cross Hospital. He is an old servant of King George and was also in the service of King Edward."



Prime Minister Lloyd George walks briskly through the huddled hospital.



Painting was one of the therapeutic activities.



Invalid carriages drawn by donkeys were normally for patients, but on this occasion two nurses took a ride.

The cases are practically all gunshot wounds.

A later visit was made by a correspondent of "The Times." "As you turn inland towards the grey buildings and the Red Cross flag you become aware of recumbent figures in blue suits lying in sandy spots quietly reading. A faint, infectious laugh is heard, and looking up an ally between the wards we see two men in blue approaching on two legs—not two legs each—and two crutches, and they have some merry jest between them!"

"This happiness is the dominating spirit of the British Red Cross Hospital at Netley."

When this correspondent made his visit, 4,004 patients had come to the hospital since its opening, of which only 400 had died. "Some cases were quite hopeless by the time they reached Netley," he adds.

Injured soldiers of many nations want to the hospital: British, Australian, Indian, Italian, French, Russian, German, and even German prisoners-of-

also record visits of Herby, nobility, politicians and stage personalities. There are photographs and signatures of King George V and Queen Mary, of Princess Helena Victoria, of Princess Mary, of Prime Minister Lloyd George, of the great industrialist and Liberal politician, Sir Alfred Mond, who later became the first Lord Melchett, and of Lady Wetherby.

Newspaper cuttings show articles from the Southampton and Portsmouth Hippodrome giving a concert, the star of which was singer Ada Havel, who died recently.

Oriel emphasis was placed in the hospital on therapeutic activities for patients, such as painting, amateur concert parties and outdoor sports. London artists displayed fancy needlework and toys made by wounded soldiers at the Red Cross Hospital, Netley; and a newspaper report of a sports day at the hospital states: "Many of the men were more or less seriously handicapped by their battle, but, far

years the hospital had accommodated 20,000 patients, she said, 1,500 of whom had been officers.

"NO THANKS TOO GREAT"

"The cases dealt with have included those of the greatest surgical character, and in this connection I feel that no thanks can be too great for the medical, surgical and nursing staff for the skill, the patience, and the kindly unceasing attention shown to those under their charge."

Later the "toytown" hospital was dismantled, and the last of the Red Cross patients were either allowed home or transferred to other hospitals. But thanks to Lady Crooke-Lawless's albums the British Red Cross Hospital, Netley, will live on in the hearts of those who served there.



Soldiers of many nations were patients at the Red Cross hospital. Also in the photograph are two Japanese Red Cross nurses.



View of the "toytown" hospital, soon after its completion in 1914.

FREE - FREE - FREE
FROM
PERSONAL TAILORS
OF OXFORD
115, EAST STREET, SOUTHAMPTON
ONE OF THE FAMOUS MONACO ITALIAN SHIRTS
(Value 4/6) with every Road Tailored Suit ordered in
LAST FEW DAYS
Telephone SOUTHAMPTON 2027.

'LEADING LIGHTS' IN NEW HOME

"Echo" Staff Reporter

THE Mayor of Southampton, Alderman S. M. G. Mitchell, yesterday officially opened the new reconstructed showrooms of one of the country's leading electrical appliance manufacturers—Falks.

"The showroom at Commercial-road, Southampton, was first opened in December 1932," said the Mayor.

"The exhibits in the showroom are specially designed for architects and consultants, with an emphasis on industrial and commercial lighting."



Falks' spacious new lighting showroom in Commercial-road, Southampton.

HAYES & RUSSELL

Main Contractor for Modernisation

of

MESSRS. FALKS SHOWROOM

SHOP & BAR FITTERS

OLD DRILL HALL, RED LION CUT,

BITTERNE, SOUTHAMPTON

Telephone 48332.

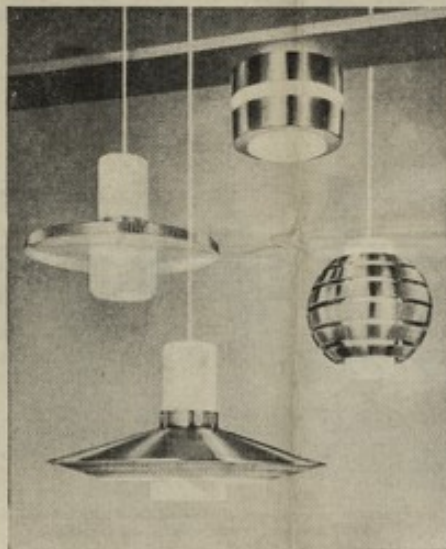
ADVANCE CARPET SUPPLIES

of 4 STATION ROAD

WOOLSTON, SOUTHAMPTON

(Telephone 47012)

were pleased to supply the carpets for FALKS NEW LIGHTING SHOWROOM



FALKS for the fittings you want

The elegant contemporary 'Copenhagen' range illustrated is just one example of the many lighting fittings for all purposes designed and manufactured by Falks. See numerous others at our showrooms.

10 COMMERCIAL ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON
Tel. Southampton 21336



Airport 'war' flares again

"ECHO" CORRESPONDENT

THE five-year-old battle between Hampshire County Council and Air Vice-Marshal ("Pat" Bissett) D. C. T. Bennett over the reconstruction of Southampton Airport, entered its latest phase at Hurtle Winkley, when the Air Vice-Marshal, owner of the airport, appeared at a local inquiry against the County Council's refusal to allow development which would include 15 hangars on four sites in the airport.

He also appeared against County Council enforcement notices, including those issued on the terminal building as a cafe, restaurant, and to a fence extending 147 feet in length along part of the A30 trunk road.

Air Vice-Marshal Bennett conducted his own case and that of the applicant company, Hurs Aircraft Ltd., and was supported by representatives of several firms using the airport, the British Parachute Club, who also use it, the Air League, and a firm which seeks to acquire the site.

The County Council case was presented by their Deputy Clerk, Mr. J. H. Martin, with Mr. D. H. E. Hockley, Deputy County Planning Officer, as witness, and Mr. James Worsley, an assistant solicitor to the County Council.

SUPPORT

THE County Council case was supported by a number of Valley residents, including those living on the periphery of the airport.

References were made throughout the long hearing to the previous planning history of the site which ceased to be a civil airport in May, 1960, and was bought by Air Vice-Marshal Bennett in 1961. In 1958, when the Government gave its approval to clear Hurtle Winkley, Hampshire County Council as local planning authority, supported by Hurtle Winkley (Hurs) Council and Valley Parish Council, declared their policy that, following its clearance, the whole of the land at the wartime airport should revert to open space.

Following a local inquiry in May, 1960, the Minister of Housing and Local Government granted permission for the 225 acres owned by the Air Vice-Marshal to continue as a residential area for three hangars.

LIMITED

In May, 1962, he was granted permission by the local planning authority, for a period terminating on December 31, 1967, to put up a hangar for 12 aircraft, but in August, 1962, his application for a comprehensive development of the airport was turned down, and an appeal, which brought another public inquiry, resulted in dismissal by the Minister. Another appeal, in 1963, resulted in a decision in favour of a hangar of 8,500 sq. ft. super.

One of the County Council's reasons for not allowing the new proposals for hangars, that they would be a nuisance to the owner. He said he would not build hangars unless there was pressure for their use.

In the past year about 100 aircraft owners seeking accommodation had to be turned down. In the past winter when an average of 40 aircraft had stood in the open, thousands of hangers a number had been damaged through gales. Aircraft could not safely be left out, in the open they deteriorated, and radars and other parts then failed to work when they were taken into the air, and the Air Vice-Marshal.

CONFIRMED

In his appeal against the enforcement order relating to the terminal building, Air Vice-Marshal Bennett claimed that permission was given in 1962, in 1963, and in 1964, and that the use of the terminal building was given when it was the terminal.

OVERSEAS

The first overseas trip was made in 1958, when Australia, New Zealand, India and the Far East were visited. This laid the foundation for branch organisations in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

The company built the first drive-in trade counter in Norway. Falks can claim to export to practically all the countries in the world where imports are permitted for commercial and domestic purposes.

The Southampton showroom is devoted to electric lighting in all its varied forms, for industrial, commercial and domestic purposes. On the industrial side the company have designed and supplied the lighting for main line stations, marshalling yards of British Rail, for steel works and power stations.

COMMONS

On the commercial side Falks have designed and manufactured items of applied lighting for some of the largest city office blocks. Falks also supplied lighting for the House of Commons.

In addition to lighting, the company has subsidiary companies within the group, handling domestic gas cookers, high tension switch gear for the national grid and for the super grid.

The company also manufacture electric cables such as those used in super-sonic aircraft. Their latest venture is the manufacture of thermal storage hot heaters for commercial and domestic premises for using off-peak electricity.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

MRS B. MILLAR, assistant nursing officer to the Wessex Regional Hospital Board, has been awarded a World Health Organisation scholarship to study nursing abroad, the board's monthly meeting yesterday.

Mrs Millar will tour Denmark, Sweden and Finland for a month starting next week, the board heard.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

Mr. Bennett, who lives a wife and daughter, was also a keen cricketer.

Kidney machine account opens

WESSEX Regional Hospital Board have received several donations towards the purchase of kidney machines — yesterday's meeting was held at Mount Mansell, Totton, was told.

The money has been placed in a suspense account ready for the time when they can be used for home dialysis.

ONCE HEAD OF FIRM

MRS BELLA HUDSON GARRING, of Hyde, Lee of Wight, who built up the Biscopic, confectionery firm from a bakery factory in Bitterne, left £41,221 gross (£20,339 net), of £7,739 has been paid and will be made known tomorrow, who died.

Mrs Garring's last will, dated 1962, was proved in the High Court on 12th January. She owned the company until 1962, when Lever Brothers took control but remained on as chairman until 1964.

Careless—and bad brakes

PETER WILLIAM NOHMAN, 100, DORSET ROAD, PORTWOOD, was fined £10 with £314s. costs by Eastleigh Magistrates yesterday for driving a car carelessly.

He was also fined £5 for using a car with inefficient brakes.

Fined £5

William Booth, of Bitterne Lane, Bitterne, was fined £5 at Hurtle yesterday for driving a car carelessly.

Poured on for traffic flow

ABOUT 150 tons of concrete were poured on to the Dorset-street gyratory underpass at Southampton yesterday, and now this structure and way to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

Construction Co., completing the Dorset-street stretch and bringing the new road into Bellevue Terrace.

The "Echo" photograph shows the underpass, with workmen busy above topping concrete on to the gyratory roadway with the jacks behind and the United Presbyterian-Congregational Church on the right.



The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

The road above will take four lanes of traffic and the car-park to the island car-park is virtually complete.

IN THE NETLEY 'TREASURE'—A VICTORIA CROSS

"Echo" Staff Reporter

ONE of the mysteries of the old Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, was solved yesterday when underneath the hospital's foundation stone was found the prototype Victoria Cross.

The hospital, which is being demolished, was opened by Queen Victoria in 1854. Over the years there has been uncertainty whether the prototype Victoria Cross was underneath the 23-ton Welsh granite foundation stone.

The VC was created by Royal Warrant just four months prior to Queen Victoria saying the foundation stone.

CEREMONY
The lifting of the stone took place with almost as much pomp and ceremony as when the stone was laid.

Much of the "top brass" of the Royal Army Medical Corps were present. Six too, were members of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army

Nursing Corps, and local civic heads, including the Deputy Mayor of Southampton, Alderman R. C. Haskell.

They heard Major-Gen. W. B. F. Swinson, Deputy Director of Medical Services, Southern Command, say: "For a century dozens of Army doctors and nurses have treated and cared for hundreds and thousands of sick and wounded soldiers that have come to Netley."

"And what excellent work they have done."

A CHAPTER
The ceremony, he said, was a fitting end to a long and illustrious chapter in the life of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Then an excavator driven by Mr. Arthur Janaway, from Swaythling, Southampton, moved in to lift the huge stone. Underneath was a smaller block, made of Bath stone and inscribed "Victoria Military Hospital, 1854". Then this was raised, to reveal the copper casket.

Demolition contractor, Mr. Bill Perry, handed the casket to Col. J. F. D. Murphy, Officer Commanding the present Royal Victoria Hospital, who got to work with a screw-driver to prise the lid open.

TENSION

It was a tense moment. A busy demolition worker cheered on a finger nail, and Press and television cameras were at the ready.

Then the Victoria Cross appeared, followed by a silver Crimea Medal complete with all four campaign bars. Also from the casket were lifted coins of the realm and medals to Major-Gen. A. Sachs, representative Colonel Commandant of the RAMC.

Col. Murphy presented the casket and medals to Major-Gen. A. Sachs, representative Colonel Commandant of the RAMC. Major-Gen. Sachs said memories would be preserved as a memorial to doctors, nurses and other members of the RAMC, and he hoped they would be an inspiration to present and future members of the Corps.

RED CUSHION

The casket's contents were then placed on a red cushion held



REM McCrann, with nurses of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, marches off with the VC that nobody saw.

by RHM McCrann, who led a "casket escort party" through the crowds, to the accompaniment of a lively march played by the RAMC band from the Corps Depot at Mitchell near Aldershot. On each side of the RHM was a nurse of the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

The Victoria Cross and the other items from the casket took pride of place at a RAMC exhibition, relevant to the foundation of the Royal Victoria Hospital, held in the YMCA building in the hospital grounds. Included among the exhibits was a portrait of Queen Victoria which used to hang at the hospital and wooden quilt knitted by Queen Victoria and presented by her to the hospital in 1852.

Major-Gen. Sachs said he thought the Victoria Cross was



The big moment—Col. Desmond Murphy, Officer Commanding the present Royal Victoria Hospital, prisms open the copper casket.



The 23-ton Welsh granite foundation stone is gently lifted from its 150 years old resting place.



At last—the prototype of the 1,344 Victoria Crosses that have been awarded is held up for all to see. In Col. Murphy's left hand is the silver Crimea Medal, complete with all four campaign bars.

—"Echo" photos.

"absolutely priceless". It was hoped it would join other exhibits at the permanent RAMC Museum at the Corps Depot at Mitchell.

MAY BE ANOTHER

"At this stage I cannot say if the Cross is unique," said Major-Gen. Sachs. "There may be another prototype in an Army collection or in the Royal Household."

Others present at the ceremony included Lieut.-Gen. Sir Robert Drew, Director General of the Army Medical Services; Surgeon Rear-Admiral E. B. Bradbury, commanding the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar; the Army's Matron-in-Chief, Brig. Dame Margaret Turner; and two representatives of the Ministry of Public Building and Works, Mr. A. G. Bennett and Mr. D. N. O. Harris, of Bournemouth.

The hospital, which could take over 1,300 beds, and had over 130 wards, has been deserted for some years. It is being completely demolished, except for the Royal Chapel and demolition work is likely to be finished next summer.

It is hoped in some quarters that the hospital site, which commands a wide view of Southampton Water, will eventually become a recreational open space for the public.

(See Topics of the Hour).

ALL CAR PRICES DRASTICALLY REDUCED

This is a result of the "Squeeze" but although we offer the lowest priced Cars on the market, quality remains at the usual high standard expected of WILL SHORT LTD., and you still get our 100 DAY PARTS and LABOUR GUARANTEE ON ALL USED CARS OVER £300!

THE BEST VALUE ON DISPLAY
£395 FORD ZEPHYR 6, 1964, Goodwood green, Beechwood beige interior; this really is a snip!!!

- | | |
|---|--|
| £1,435 FORD, 1966, 8 x 8 1/2 drive Saloon, 3-speed, work's mileage, Vauxhall gear. | £465 FORD, 1964, 4 door d.t., 4 speed box two owners only. |
| £845 SUNBEAM, 1965, 7 x 7 1/2, 4 x 4 drive, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear. | £450 HILLMAN, 1966, 1000 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. |
| £745 SIMCA, 1966, 1300 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. | £450 HILLMAN, 1966, 1000 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. |
| £745 WOL SELEY, 1965, 8 x 7 1/2, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. | £450 HILLMAN, 1966, 1000 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. |
| £735 ROVER, 1965, 1000 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. | £450 HILLMAN, 1966, 1000 cc, 4 speed, Vauxhall gear, low mileage. |

OUR USUAL TOP PRICES FOR YOUR CAR IN PART EXCHANGE

WILL SHORT LTD.

2-4 ST. CROSS RD., WINCHESTER
Tel. WINCHESTER 31651

Controversial homes plan again backed

DESPITE further criticism that the modern type houses they hope to build on the town's Bullbridge Estate are likely to be unsaleable and out of reach to the average home buyer, Witton Borough Council are to stick to their original decision of approving the scheme in principle.

The scheme, backed by the Ministry of Housing and approved in principle when the Council met last month, is for phase four of the further development of Bullbridge and includes the building of Council houses and houses for sale.

Suggested plans are that the houses should all be of the same design, have courtyards instead of gardens and be built at a density of about 12 to the acre.

The Council will not proceed with it, however, unless market research shows that the houses are likely to sell.

Marsh remarks about the scheme were made when the Council met yesterday.

"CUT AND DRIED" - Councillor G. H. T. Dodge complained that the Council was not given enough time last month to study the plans. It seemed to him that the scheme had come from the Housing Committee all "cut and dried."

"I have understood all along that the intention of further development at Bullbridge was to encourage home ownership, particularly for the young married couples.

This scheme is nothing more than an opportunity for speculative building. He estimated that the overall cost of the kind of houses suggested would be about £3,000 and in a rural area such as Witton would be neither "desirable" nor likely to sell.

FULL AGREEMENT - Councillor Casley said he agreed with Councillor Dodge 100 per cent. He too estimated that the houses would cost between £3,000 to £3,500 and maintained that

Basingstoke man awarded £113 for damaged car

THE Basingstoke owner of a car which was involved in a collision with a tractor was awarded £113 for repairs to the car, at Blandford County Court.

He was Mr. James Alfred Frederick Gull, of Mottisfield, whose wife, Mrs. Audrey Mary Deal, was driving the car at the time.

The tractor was owned by E. K. Hooper and Sons Ltd., of South Park, Tarrant Hinton, Dorset.

Soton Magistrates' Court cases

Before: Mrs. J. K. B. Raymond presiding, Mrs. J. K. Melbourn and Mr. F. J. Pinnam.

CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE - Rita Carol Noyce (23), a short-hand typist, of Burgess-road, Swaythling, Southampton - remanded at an earlier court on a charge of stealing a bottle of hair-spray from a Southampton store - was given a conditional discharge.

The case had been adjourned for a probation report to be made. Noyce admitted the offence.

ADJOURNED - A charge of stealing a crocodile skin wallet worth £85 from Park-house and Wyalit was adjourned until December 15 when the defendant, James Joseph Bassi (21), of Phoenix Wood-road, Hamble, successfully applied for legal aid. Bassi was granted bail.

ALTERED LICENCE - For fraudulently altering and using an Excess licence, Reginald Alan Kelly, of West End-road, Hitterna, Southampton, was fined a total of £10. He pleaded "Guilty."

The court heard that the licence had been taken from the Hillman car which Kelly owned and placed on his Volkswagen.

Mr. J. McNeil, prosecuting, said the licence was not stolen but taken from the car that was "off the road."

FINED £3 - Frederick Arthur Dowell, of Cheriton-avenue, Hayfield, Southampton, was fined £3 for failing to write his name and address in the registration book after the change of ownership of a car.

He did not appear in court but

magistrates decided to go ahead with the evidence after hearing that notice of the summons had been served personally on Dowell.

Wednesday, Before: Mrs. D. F. Sayers, presiding, and Mr. L. Norman.

EMPLOYEE STOLE - A man caught trying to walk out of his firm's premises with food belonging to his employers was fined £20.

Malcolm John Shalley (29), of Nympton-road, Southampton, pleaded "Guilty" to stealing four

C.R.S. shop for gifts where you CAN park the car

CO-OPERATIVE FURNISHING SHOWROOMS
60-64 ST. MARY'S RD. SOUTHAMPTON
OPEN 9 a.m. TO 5.30 p.m. DAILY

SUSAN C

PORTSWOOD JUNCT
Tel. Southamp
28, MARKET PL
Tel. Romse

"Day"
We would
tunity of w
HAP
CHRISTMA
Friday, Dec.
Friday, Dec.
and Wednes
CLOSING
December
REOPENING on December 2

...ing behind the car
... were pushing it from the
front, and the third group was
rocking the car from side to side.

Smith and the juvenile were in
this group and were shouting and
swearing. Pc Woodford warned
Smith and told him to stop rock-
ing the car but Smith continued
to shout and swear and push the
car, as did the juvenile.

At this time a girl on the pave-
ment was screaming, as her father
was attempting to get her away
from the crowd. Smith and the
juvenile ran towards them and
both began shouting and swearing.

Smith grabbed hold of the man
and was told to leave but con-
tinued with the same conduct and
was arrested.

By this time a large number of
police officers had arrived and had
subdued the crowd, which was
beginning to disperse.

Prominent in the crowd was
Moxom, who was using insulting
words.

TOLD TO MOVE ON

At 11.20 pm officers went to the
doorway of Loveland's shop
where there were a number of
youths around a police officer
making a nuisance of themselves.
They were asked to move on and
all did except Moxom.

Moxom was told to move along
as he was causing an obstruction.
Moxom raised his right arm t

TALK of TOTTON

vention Committee was formed.
One of its keenest supporters of
Long, who was then stationed at

e has rather languished. But
to the formation of a new

J. going to miss those storks which
used to roam through the grounds.

A member of the staff tells me
that although they settled down
well to life in England, after the
journey from Spain, one of the last
pair of storks died after swallowing
an object which stuck in its crop.

The remaining stork was pre-
sented to the Southampton Zoo.

Villages' need of industrial land

NEW FOREST Rural Council's
Planning Committee have de-
cided that the question of alloca-
ting areas for industrial use in
villages, to ensure the villages
continued existence, should be
referred to a conference with
Hampshire County Council, to-
gether with the general problem
of availability of industrial land
throughout the rural council's
area.

At a committee meeting, fears
were expressed that, without land
for industry, some villages might
become extinct through popula-
tion drift.

P. G. Bickford, speaking at

Build modern hospital at Netley

AFTER reading your correspondent's opinions concerning the R.V.H. demolition. I just couldn't let the Abbey Hill resident carry on her lament.

The only beauty I find at the hospital is the natural surroundings and I certainly think that the arched facade and expanse of dark, creepy corridors do not fall under the category of beauty. And, due to the fire, several years ago, parts of the building are unsafe. I am sure most people would rather see this neglected ruin pulled down, than see it fall down, maybe taking human life with it.

I certainly agree with the reader who suggests a hospital here, but a new, modern one. Surely this is the ideal place, with the grounds and sea air enough to make anyone healthy again.

The nearest hospital is the Royal South Hants in the middle of a dirty, grimy city called Southampton. These conditions can't be helped but are Health Committees going to turn their backs to this golden opportunity of fresh air, space and more space beyond? —
MISS M. DEAR (aged 14 years)
(11, Queen's View, Netley Abbey, Southampton).

Demolition too costly

The crux of the matter is that the R.V.H. Netley is obsolete to the forces, as they have other sufficient hospital accommodation for their needs, therefore like other unwanted Government property it is allowed to deteriorate and then destroyed.

I have yet to see a modern building which would stand up to the structural work of Netley Hospital, even though it's 100 years old. The vast cost of demolition alone would help to restore at least part of the hospital for a good purpose, an excellent nursing home etc.

The Hospital has always been used to its full capacity in every emergency, as far as I can go back over 30 years. If suddenly there were to be a full-scale war, and who knows? I am sure the Hospital would be utilised as it has always been, regardless of the so-called unsafe structure, which to my mind is a lot of eye wash.

My husband, too, was a nurse at Netley Hospital for years, without any complaints. He took the rough with the smooth, as all good nurses should.—**F. J. LAMBETH**
(Mrs.) (3, Hound-road, Netley Abbey).

Build super hospital at Netley

SO Netley Hospital is to be demolished, well no one who knows the place will worry about the destruction of this ill-designed atrocity. long useless corridors in

front, sick rooms viewing coal yards at the back. The bulldozers can get to work and good riddance to this relic that reminds one of Poona and the old Army.

But the site, that is worth a lot. We don't want any golf courses, sports arenas, museums, etc., however desirable. Build a great super-hospital centre incorporating everything, replace the Royal South Hants with its snarled-up traffic problems, the General with its awkward access, the Chest, Home of Recovery, the lot. With no traffic hazards and direct routes from all of the town, the site is perfect. Also patients will get well quicker looking over parkland and water than they ever will over shops and factories.

And the cost, about that of a couple of nuclear submarines, and I know which I prefer, subs sailing in Southampton Water or a glittering office of healing on its bank. It isn't the submarines.— **J. W. R. SLADE**, (420, Portsmouth-road, Sholing, Southampton).

... editor, "Post Magazine
and Insurance Monitor": Mr. B.
Basten, JP, president Institute
of Bankers; Mr. A. T. Cullen.
CBE, Chief Constable; Mr. A.
Buckley, principal, Southampton
College of Technology; Mr. R. R.
Gleave, OBE, JP, director, general
manager and editor-in-chief
Southern Newspapers, Ltd.; Mr. D.
Wilson, chairman of the Building
Societies Institute; Mr. W. A.
Farley, chairman local committee;
and Mr. M. A. Jones, chairman
Guernsey local committee.

Monday
have
who have

stened railw
difference
y used the

passenger service on the March

Falling foul of the Beeching
axe, their Monday to Friday ser-
vice came to an end yesterday,
and although the regulars took it
philosophically, and talked of
other arrangements they had
made for their daily journey, the
last train was filled with railway
enthusiasts who deplored the
passing of another line.

For the last journey British
Rail provided a newly-recon-
ditioned Hampshire diesel elec-
tric multiple unit, and for relief
driver Mr. Ralph Head, of East-
leigh, it was a routine run, with-
out sentiment, although the long
blasts on his two-tone horn as he
approached the several gateless
crossings, suggested he had cap-
tured something of the occasion.

Since 1925

RVH—'Useless, badly-designed'

AS a very junior VAD who served during the latter period of the First World War at the RV Hospital, Netley, I feel that I must add my opinions to those already put forth by the members of the general public regarding this badly-designed and useless building.

I clearly remember as I walked through the corridors of the ground floor daily, thinking how amazing it was that all the suffering men lying in their beds there did not die of double pneumonia and not of the wounds sustained in that terrible war. At the time I am now speaking of Netley Hospital was full in every floor and the corridors were lined on either side with beds and patients, leaving a narrow passageway between the beds. Behind all this glass so admired by some of the public the poor patient either froze in his bed in winter, or blistered in heat in the summer. Of those in the dark wards behind, theirs was an unhappy existence too. No view from the front and only the kitchen, coal heaps and general administrative collection at the back, not very health giving to stricken soldiers.

Excellent surgery and nursing by the doctors and Army sisters was unstintingly given to them all,

in the most appalling working circumstances.

By all means let the Ministry of Works go ahead and demolish this obsolete building and put in its place a modern building devoted to the studying of ALL medical science in memory of a hospital in the name of "Victoria," so that all peoples may profit from the findings everywhere in the world.

Netley Hospital in the past was rightly called "The Workhouse."—
(MRS.) J. R. SEXTON (Downs Park Stores, Downs Park-crescent, Eling, Totton).

she loses in her search around the

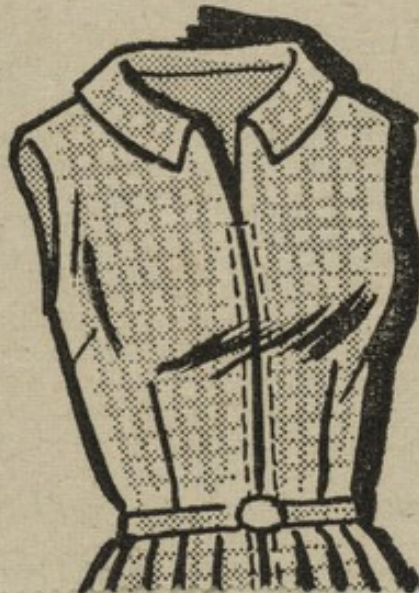
Each week we'll be having to
interested in obtaining this week
Send postal order for 3s. 3d. to
Department, 28, Greville-street,
name, address, style number and

Zip-front casual

ZIP UP this figure-flattering casual for work, shopping, travel! There's a young flare to the unpressed pleats, pert air to the little collar.

Printed pattern 4699: Half-sizes, 33-inch bust with 37-inch hips, 35/39, 37/41, 39/43, 41/45, 43/47. Size 37-inch bust with 41-inch hips requires 4 yards 35-inch fabric.

HIGH QUALITY PRINTED PATTERN



di... discovered immediately after birth and, when barely a day old, the little girl Mr. and Mrs. Charrett had waited for was taken away to hospital.

"I can tell you that at the time I felt everything was wrong. You can imagine. We wondered what on earth was wrong with us."

Little Debbie, bright eyed and bonnie, has since that time become familiar with hospital life.

A valve was inserted into her head to drain

Historic Service Hospital

Chapel to be Preserved

Sir—Much publicity has been given in recent weeks to the decision to demolish the old building of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, in Hampshire,

The knowledge that the Royal Chapel will be fully preserved should reassure the Rev. E. H. Pillifant, who expressed his deep concern (Feb. 3) and to the many others who hold "Netley" in affectionate esteem.

Indeed many valuable and historical pieces, salvaged from the old hospital building now under sentence, have been presented to the museum of the Royal Army Medical Corps or have been incorporated in the newer building which will continue as a Service hospital.

It is only human to feel sadness at the passing of such a great old hospital, which for over a century inspired some of the most distinguished doctors of the Army Medical Services. But those who value such a heritage may take pride in the knowledge that today at Netley these high traditions in medicine and nursing sustain the new and forward-looking Service Psychiatric Centre, in which both the Army and the Royal Navy have joined to work together.

Yours faithfully,
DESMOND MURPHY,
Col.,
Officer Commanding.
Royal Victoria Hospital. Netley.

BOARD, DEPT. DT6.
BLIN 2, IRELAND

to
and
the SUN...

ILLA, CAR.

00
IZES



iday guaranteed
vel Trade
ion scheme

*1-inclusive holiday of a lifetime with
LY most dates available*

al Travel Agent—and enter this year's
ompetition FREE into the bargain!

etition is open to all SPAIN ONLY

oliday resort along Spain's wonderful
n coastline where SPAIN ONLY have
ected hotels and sites. Then—look
azy, sun-drenched days...

Replace RVH with modern building

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo."

SINCE it was announced by the Ministry of Works that they propose to demolish the RVH, you have had a spate of letters. Only since it has been decided these folk in Netley are up in arms, or dismayed at the news. They remained silent for the past 10-15 years the main building has been unused, an empty shell.

There is no doubt about it the RVH from the outside is a beautiful building in a lovely setting—I said from the outside.

I served for a number of years there during the 1930's, both at the main building (medical and surgical) and at "D" Block, the old mental hospital which is a separate building situated in the grounds to the rear of the main building. I also served at other hospitals in this country and abroad, but none of them came up to the gloomy RVH.

The hospital, as anybody who nursed there knows, is built the "wrong way round," its wards get no sunlight, the only windows in the wards face approximately N.E. and are at the back of the building and those situated on the wings at each end of the building are the exception (four in all). The corridors, a quarter-mile long each and approximately 12ft.—15ft. wide are in the front of the building facing Southampton Water, the centre block is the Administration and Officers wards. On a sunny day the patients beds were pulled out into the corridors, providing the sacred highly polished lino which went the full length of the corridors wasn't scratched. When I said pulled I should have said lifted, needless to say this wasn't very often.

No, I see no useful purpose as a hospital for the present building, it is 100 years old, damp, dark, and in my day badly in need of repairs. A lady correspondent suggested it be used as a mental hospital, does she seriously mean it! Modern thinking, thank heaven, is for bright cheerful surroundings, after all the patient, be he a medical, surgical or nervous case spends the greater part of his time in hospital inside the building and not outside.

The RVH has served its purpose since 1865; it is now time to replace it with a modern successor. Sentiment is fine in its place, let us be practical and think of the future. — **C. J. SCOTT, S.R.N. R.M.P.A. (4, Rose-close, Langdown Croft, Hythe, Southampton).**

Court cases

Before: Mrs. M. L. Vale, Mr. B. G. W. Bowyer and Mr. V. H. Townsend.

NOT NOTIFIED

Chris Edward Anthony Mintrim (1), of Preshaw-close, Aldermoor, Southampton, was fined £2 for not inserting his name as a new owner in the registration book of the car and notifying the authorities of the change of ownership.

OBSTRUCTION

For causing an obstruction with a motor van in St. Denys-road, Hubert Walter Titmas (45), of Macnaghten-road, Southampton, was fined £5.

of Priory-road, St. Denys, was badly bruised and cut.

Saturday. Before: Mr. E. Beale, Mr. B. H. Dale and Mrs. H. M. Russell.

REMANDED

Labourer Brian Powell, of Granville-close, Winchester, was remanded on bail until next Thursday, "for further police inquiries." Powell is accused of stealing a £30 pedal cycle.

DRINK FINES

Soldier James Mary Nolan, of Port Squadron, RCT, Marchwood Camp, was fined 10s. when he admitted being drunk in South Front.

John Lawson, a seaman in the Queen Mary, was fined £1 for being drunk in Latimer-street. He had two previous convictions for drunkenness.

TO AWAIT ESCORT

Two soldiers said to be absent without leave from their unit in Germany were remanded in custody to await an Army escort.

They were Troopers John Delara, of Victory-road, Southampton, and Henry Thompson, of Andersons-road, Chapel, Southampton. Both pleaded "Guilty."

Insp. Harold Wells said both men were arrested after police inquiries in Southampton.

DRIVING CHARGE

Sapper John Scott, of Port Regiment, Marchwood, was remanded on bail until February 14, charged with driving in St. Mary's-road, while unfit through drink.

Surprise guest at photo evening

MR. T. HERBERT JONES, president-elect of the Central Association of Photographic Societies and secretary of the London Salon of Photography was the surprise guest of Mr. Donald S. Herbert at president's evening of Southampton Camera Club. Mr. Herbert Jones showed some of his work in the shape of monochrome slides and prints.

Refreshments, provided by Mr. Herbert, were served in the interval and afterwards Mr. Jones talked about his work and answered members' questions.

To help Scouts

There were two dead-heats at the 1st drive organised by the 1st Marchwood Scouts to raise funds for the extension of the Scouts Hall.

Equal first were Miss Leach and Mr. Vincent, and equal second were Mrs. Kitney and Mrs. Saunders.

The drive was organised by Mrs. Vincent and Mrs. Hussey. Mr. Louis

Council to

'SHOCKING' HOSPITAL COMES DOWN

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

A MILITARY hospital criticised for its design by Florence Nightingale on her return from the Crimea is at last being pulled down.

Demolition began yesterday of the Royal Victoria Hospital, at Netley, Hampshire. The hospital, a quarter of a mile long, has 138 wards which once contained 1,065 beds. The site will be developed as a recreational open space for the public.

When Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone in 1856 the hospital was acclaimed as the world's largest military hospital. But before it was finished in 1863, Florence Nightingale was concerned that the building bore no relation to her recommendations to the War Office.

The wards were dark and poorly ventilated and there were no isolation units. It appeared to her that an imposing façade to Southampton Water was given priority over a functional hospital. But building continued and the hospital has been an enormous drain on Government finances ever since.

"Jeeps in corridors"

In 1944 the hospital was handed over to the American Army who were said to have solved the problem of the long corridors by driving Jeeps along them. Netley was returned to the British in 1945.

In 1956 Gen. Sir George Erskine, GOC-in-C Southern Command, said that the main building was "a shocker, un-economic and would be better to be pulled down."

bookmaker, who denies his liability for £41 in stamp arrears.

He maintained that he has not worked since a car accident in May, 1964, and as an unemployed person he is not required to stamp a card.

But the Ministry says he earns a living by gambling. They maintain that he had won £600 from bingo in the last 12 months.

Point of gross return

A spokesman at the Ministry's headquarters in London explained: "I cannot comment on individual cases but the rule is that any person who is not employed must pay the non-employed stamp of 14s 11d a week if his total income from all sources is £260 a year or more."

What if a man won £600 at bingo and lost £400 of it at the dogs making his net earnings only £200?

The spokesman replied: "His losses could not be offset against his winnings. The ruling is very clear about this. It says in black type that exemption from liability can only be obtained if the total income from all sources is less than £260."

The case concerning Mr. Osborne has already come before a registrar, but the hearing has been adjourned for it to be contested before a county court judge. The case may be heard at Reading next Wednesday.

POLICE RAID 'DESTRUCTION IN ART' SHOW

Police went to a performance organised by the "Destruction in Art Symposium" at St. Bride's Institute, Fleet Street, last night. Mr. Gustar Metzger, the symposium's secretary, said they confiscated a film and equipment used during the performance.

RVH demolition regretted

THE Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley is without doubt the most elegant and impressive building along the shores of Southampton Water. The proposal to demolish this fine building seems all the more regrettable in view of the fact that it is one of the few places of beauty left to grace the shores of our world famous waterway.

With the number of ugly industrial structures and installations increasing all the time it must surely be well worth while to preserve this area and possibly the RVH to continue to provide a refreshing break in the ever-growing wilderness of industry.

It seems a great pity that this building should have been so neglected over the years as to make its restoration such a formidable task, but shouldn't we meet this task as a challenge before it is too late?

If it can be suitably converted, then whatever purpose this magnificent building is put to whether as a hospital, old people's home or recreational centre, it should be for the benefit or enjoyment of as large a section of the general public as possible. For too long it has lain derelict, useless and forgotten.—**M. B. CURTIS**
(Willow Mead, Botley-road, Horton Heath).



violets from Mrs. Violet Andrews.



Golf course at RVH Netley

MAY I add my support to the proposal to convert the grounds of the disused and obsolete Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley into a golf course?

This is a splendid idea and should be done as soon as possible.

—J. R. WHITE (204, South East-road, Southampton).

Edward S., Hornsby
Cook (Weston Park), who had a
bad start was making progress
also. On the last lap Bower and
Hornsby appeared exhausted by



n
y
re
N.
rd,
M.
a
ns.
st-
he

HOUSEWIFE LEADS A FIGHT TO SAVE R.V.H.

NETLEY HOSPITAL. Is it a useless, derelict old building which should be demolished to make way for a park and recreational open space? Or is it a piece of outstanding architecture that could be preserved and put to a useful purpose?

The Ministry of Works think it should be demolished. So do Hampshire County Council. But many people are upset by the idea.

In December the Ministry announced their plans to knock down the Royal Victoria Military Hospital.

Immediately Hampshire County Council offered to buy the site. It was described by Lord Porchester, chairman of Hampshire's open space committee, as "one of the best open spaces in the county."

OF MERIT

But many of Netley's villagers disagreed. The hospital, a landmark on Southampton Water's eastern bank for more than a century, was of great architectural merit, they claimed. And why knock it down when Britain was so short of hospital accommodation?

One of those upset by the Ministry decision was housewife Mrs. Anne Neal. She wrote a protest letter to the "Echo." And that

started her fight against officialdom.

For after her letter was published other villagers telephoned her and wrote letters of support. More messages of support came from people throughout the county.

"When I wrote the letter it was just a personal protest," Mrs. Neal told me at her Abbey-hill home, half a mile from the hospital. "But it just snowballed from there. It was obvious there was a lot of support for my ideas, so four of us got together and formed an RVH Preservation Society."

The society organised a petition and started an appeal fund. Both received considerable support.

OPPOSITION

But there has also been opposition. Many people feel it would cost too much to modernise the hospital. Others think there is a

better case for a recreational open space.

Commented Mrs. Neal: "Of course it will cost a lot to modernise it. But it's estimated that it will cost at least £60,000—personally I think it will cost more—to demolish the place. Why not use that money, together with what we can raise, towards modernising it?"

Many people thought the hospital was falling to pieces, said Mrs. Neal. "That is untrue. The only damage has been caused by vandals."

Open spaces were all very well, but not so important as a hospital. It would also mean the loss of what was a unique piece of architecture.

What sort of hospital did Mrs. Neal envisage?

"I have several personal ideas. I think it could be used as a psychiatric training and rehabilitation centre, or an occupational therapy unit," said Mrs. Neal.

"But all that really matters is that it should be used to meet the urgent needs of man today".

Palmerston—the Most of Ministers

Historian Donald Southgate
For unless a man of prime
the best part of his life to
s and the archives of half-
definitive life can be written
years.

became Foreign Secretary, that
there was anything occult about
diplomacy which put it beyond
the understanding of an ordinary
man such as himself; and to
assert, after he had held the
office for some years, that only
he was in a position to give a
worth-while opinion on foreign
affairs.

But there was some justifica-



Palmerston the Foreign Minister.
—Illustrations from "The Most
English Minister" (Macmillan).

foreigners would only adopt the
British constitution their
troubles would soon be over.
Queen Victoria was nearer the
mark when she said it was "a
sad mistake to try constitutions
in these Southern countries."

Sending the Fleet

In Europe his great aim was
to preserve the Balance of Power.

Most

'Killer Joe'
taught Duke

MEET 'THE MUSSOLINI FISH'

HAVE you ever noticed how
people often look like animals
—or is it the other way about? In
the February issue of the monthly
"Animal Life" (3s. 6d.), there is
a story about our little coastal
friend the blenny—local fishermen
will know all about him. Well,
the article is called "The fish that
looks like Mussolini"—and there
is a wonderful photograph to prove
it!

As usual there are some out-
standing photographs, ranging
from graceful storks to disgraceful
cuckoos; white rhinos (the rare
ones) to "dragons"—the fearsome-
looking marine iguanas of the
Galapagos Islands.

Concerned as it is with the need
for a better understanding of, and
better protection, for animals, the
magazine's article about the bal-
ance of nature and man's efforts
to help (which are invariably dis-
astrous) is to the point.

And for something most un-
usual, what about catching turtle
using a remora, or sucking fish, as
a handy accessory?

Fined £4

Harold John Harvey, of Hanger-
close, Marchwood, was fined £4 at
Ringwood for failing to comply with
a traffic sign—a continuous white
line—when driving a car at Pickett
Hill, Ringwood.

WOMEN'S

BUILD SUPER HOSPITAL AT NETLEY

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo"

HAVING read with interest the correspondence on Netley Hospital, the letter from J. W. R. Slade made me feel I simply had to put pen to paper and say how strongly I agree with him.

Knowing the hospital and its grounds so well I couldn't agree more and what a wonderful example to other cities and towns if Southampton really did go ahead with this wonderful idea!

I quite agree that it would be much more beneficial to society than golf courses, sports arenas, etc., after all, from my point of view, Southampton is quite adequately supplied with these facilities.

Couldn't a fund be set up to this end? I am sure the people of Southampton would be very proud to boast such a super hospital, and also think of the greatly improved health standards of the local population.

What are the views of the Hospital Board on this subject?—
PAMELA D. LEWINGTON (MRS)
(42, Marls-road, Botley).

'Sacred atmosphere'

You have courteously printed a good deal of correspondence relating to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, which I have followed with great interest.

May I please be allowed to say a few more words on the subject. As I pointed out before, the building was actually designed for India, and does not, of course, conform to our ideas of modern architecture. But, in my opinion, it is infinitely preferable to blocks of hideous skyscraper flats or perhaps an oil refinery. I venture to prophesy that it may become another "Fawley" unless a firm stand is made.

Whatever is erected in place of the RVH should be a perpetual reminder to posterity of the sufferings endured and sacrifices that were made by thousands of "Tommies" so that we may live in freedom—also those who served them. It does have a sacred atmosphere.

Somehow, I don't think Queen Victoria "would be amused."—
ELSIE A. MARSHALL (Deep Meadows, Warsash).

Indian

Mr. Danks said that the matter began during the evening of February 6 when Mugyenzi went to Southampton police station and complained of a theft of £150.

"Evidently the student was standing outside a public house when the money was taken from him. A Triumph Herald car was involved. The student went with an officer to a house in Northumberland-road," said Mr. Danks, "where the Herald was parked.

"There the accused, Toney, was seen and pointed out as the man who had stolen the money. The officer went upstairs and saw Wilson, who denied any knowledge of the theft."

"A witness"

Mr. Danks continued that after further inquiries Dockery was seen at his home and it was put to him that he was a witness to the theft. "He said he had known something was stolen but he did not know what," said Mr. Danks.

Sgt. Porter came into the picture, said the solicitor, when he saw Wilson. The West Indian denied taking money. After cross-examination, Wilson told the officer that in fact no money was involved, but it was "weed" that was taken.

Mr. Danks said the officer collected a polythene bag containing 5,925 grains of the drugs from the backyard of the house in Northumberland-road. The bag was under a window sill.

Toney told the police he had been with Wilson in the Triumph Herald. "It had been our intention to split up the drugs between us. But when the police came we threw it out of the window."

Mugyenzi had said that he got the drugs from "a man in the street." He had paid £30 for it with his allowance.

John recital has Royal patronage

THE Queen Mother will attend the concert to be held (by kind permission of the president and council of the Royal Academy) at Burlington House, on March 1 in aid of the Augustus John Memorial Fund.

The Amademus Quartet will play quartets by Haydn and Mozart, and Amaryllis Fleming, the cellist, who is organising the concert and giving her services, will join them after the interval in Schubert's Quintet in C.

The five-guinea tickets will entitle holders to visit the Bonnard exhibition, now in the Royal Academy galleries, either before

'Echo' Letter-box

R.V.H. NETLEY 'COULD BE TRANSFORMED'

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo."

WITH reference to your correspondent's letter in Monday's "Echo"—this is exactly what I mean by lack of vision and imagination today!—This is 1966 not the 30's—with modern techniques these "gloomy" wards would soon be transformed beyond recognition.

No one has suggested that this building should again be utilised in its present or past state. I should have thought it was obvious to anyone with one iota of common sense—that much would have to be done in order to brighten and modernise the interior of this historic building—(hence the RVH Fund) what could be more practical than that?

Had the Governments over the years seen fit to spend as much on military hospitals (for repairs and modernisations, etc.) as on older civilian hospitals—perhaps the cost of such aspirations wouldn't be so great—but no! this hospital has been allowed to deteriorate between wars—during which time it has been condemned several times—only to miraculously re-emerge as serviceable again—in the event of another world emergency. Remarkable!

Your reader appears to be viewing the situation through dark misty memories of the past: she remembers the place during a period when she admits it was in urgent need of repair—it is still in urgent need of repair—but thank heavens some of us have the vision to see its tremendous potential.

If the demolition order is carried out on Netley Hospital it will rob us of much of the powerful healing atmosphere of this rare and wonderful site.

It may be true that patients while in certain wards receive little sunlight but they do receive something else which far outweighs the importance of the sun—they receive the healing rays of spiritual light in which the RVH is saturated—this place—the building and the grounds are sacred. Few who have been there would deny this. — ANNE NEAL ("Penshurst", Netley Abbey).

17 police called to battle

Staff Reporter

last night during the big



Six-year-old Ian Odell presents Councillor Mrs. E. E. Willcock, dinner. —

£200 raid on newsagency

TWENTY-SIX thousand cigarettes, worth about £200, were stolen in a raid last night on the newsagent's shop of M. Bancroft, Ltd., at 11, The Broadway, Portsmouth, Southampton.

The thief broke in by climbing a stack pipe at the rear of the premises and smashing a toilet window.

THE END OF A HOSPITAL

IN the House of Commons, Mr. David Price asked the Secretary of State for Defence what he proposed to do with the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, when it ceased to be required by Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Reynolds: Its main block is to be demolished: when the psychiatric wing has been reprovided elsewhere, the hospital will be disposed of in the normal way.

their modern factory for a

CTIONER

ge of fermented
production.

or

LABOURERS

RV Hospital

THE story I understood about the R.V.H. was that the building was designed for Bombay and that somehow the plans for Netley and India were confused.

Surely this must be the explanation for the long draughty corridors, the wards facing the wrong way and even the appearance of the hospital. — **JOCELYN SONDERSKOV (Mrs.) (Kobe, Hamble-lane, Hamble.)**

Memorial to the dead

Thanks to Mrs. Neal in opening this very interesting correspondence and may I come back to relating to my previous letter concerning R.V. Hospital and the building of a modern hospital.

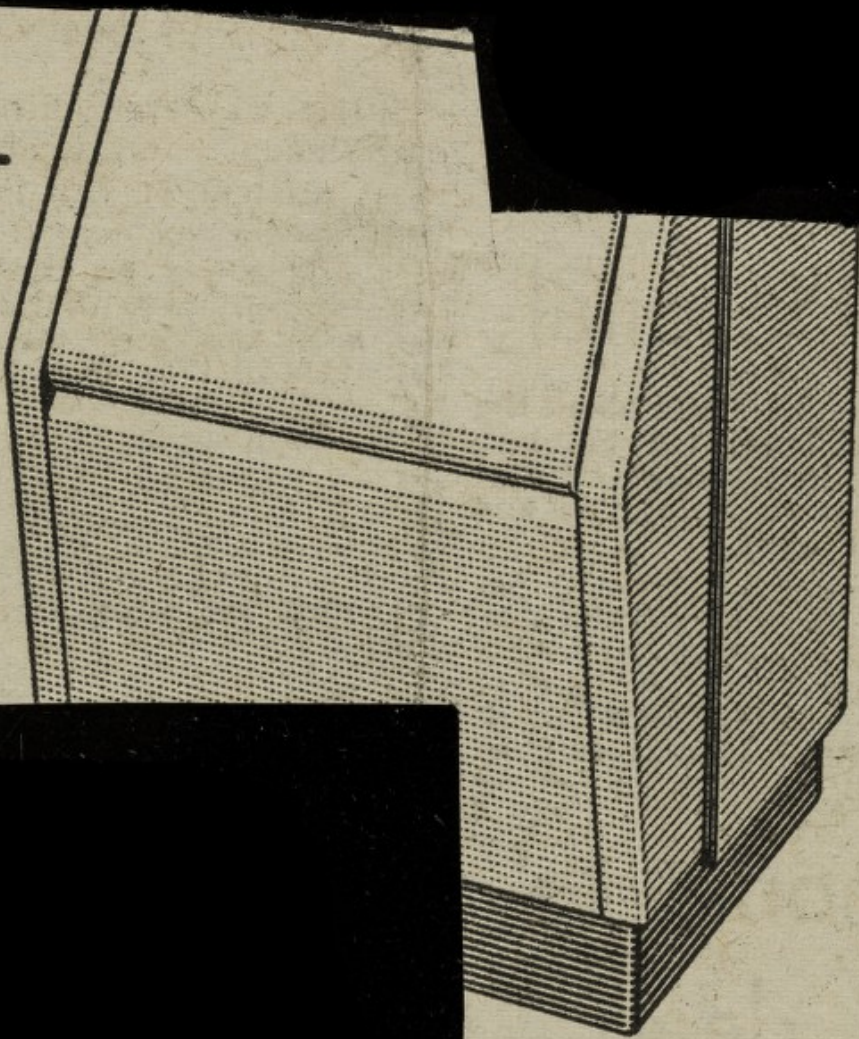
During the 1914-1918 war this hospital with addition of Red Cross huts at the back had 4,000 patients.

hundreds died, probably thousands.

Surely whatever authority take over should take this into account as in my opinion this land should be utilised in memory of those who died and a new hospital would be the appropriate building otherwise we will probably have a continuation of Weston Shore with its unsightly skyscrapers on this beautiful piece of land.

I understand the Garrison Church is being retained so we shall still have something to remember to this ill-fated building. — **H. J. SUTTON. (58, Hunt-avenue, Netley Abbey).**

livery



ash allowance for
can be used as a
SIT

7

FR

SCENE AT NETLEY

IN homage to the occasion, Bill Perry replaced his usual hand-rolled cigarette with a rather superior machine made one.

His hands didn't shake, but under the new, blinding white demolition chief's ceremonial helmet, he looked as though he needed that cigarette.

By that time though everyone was pleased. There were those who shouted the news of the Netley casket to those not close enough to see immediately.

The first-ever VC, a prototype, never awarded, coins from gold down to half farthings, the Crimea Medal and a bundle of documents (looking like a fold-over tobacco pouch) that the generals feared to open.

Witness had crept into the copper casket as it lay in its granite fissure under the hospital's foundation stone. The documents were soaking and even the biggest general there was going to leave it to the experts.

Everyone was pleased as the band played "Here's a health Unto His (Her?) Majesty." This, said Bill, the man who is knocking down the hospital, was something he would never stop telling his grandchildren.

To tell the truth, he had given me a behind-the-hand whisper earlier, that he'd had a peep under the foundation stone first—just to see that there was something there.

Everyone was pleased—and that goes for Alderman Reg. Haskell, Southampton's Deputy Mayor. As the champagne and the memories sparkled at the special guests reception before the ceremony he told me he had a bigger stake in all this than he'd thought.

The Deputy Mayor at the laying of the stone was a man named Tucker. Well . . . Tucker's daughter married Reg Haskell's father.

So that means . . . No it doesn't. In fact Reg's father married twice — his first wife died. The Deputy Mayor's

mother was not the former Miss Tucker.

Everyone was pleased, as I say. Mr. H. F. Longmore, aged 92, and the man with longest connections with Netley Hospital. He remembers John Brown, that odd Highlander confidante of Queen Victoria, coming round with the Queen and whispering . . . "where can I get a wee drappie."

The answer, I understand, lay in the black bag of the hospital's pathologist.

Of course, there was that strong rumour that the present Queen would be looking in. I was chatting to two QUARANC's, Capt. Monica Pedley and Capt. Dorothy Clements.

I was doing it because I have never missed the chance ever since one such, in the long long ago, made me an apple bed. They told me about the rumour.

It seems that someone went to their mess and asked to borrow their stair carpet. It happened to be in ceremonial red. The only one of its type in the hospital.

Anyway, the carpet wasn't for the Queen. However Her Majesty's secretary did write and ask for lots and lots of photographs of the day.

But, I reckon the happiest person of all was General Barnsley. He's been out on a limb for months and only now can he get off it.

The General was the man who started another rumour. A long time ago he claimed that the original Victoria cross was buried under the foundation stone.

But he didn't really know. He's curator of the RAMC museum, Aldershot, yet he couldn't be sure. The only evidence of the stone-laying ceremony was that "a cross" was buried. Didn't say which cross.

"Might be a crucifix," he muttered before we went down to see.

If Generals were in the habit of gnawing their lips, he would have done.

Tom Barge

Make your presents felt
this Christmas with a
Warm hearted Dimplex
heater from

NICHOLSON'S

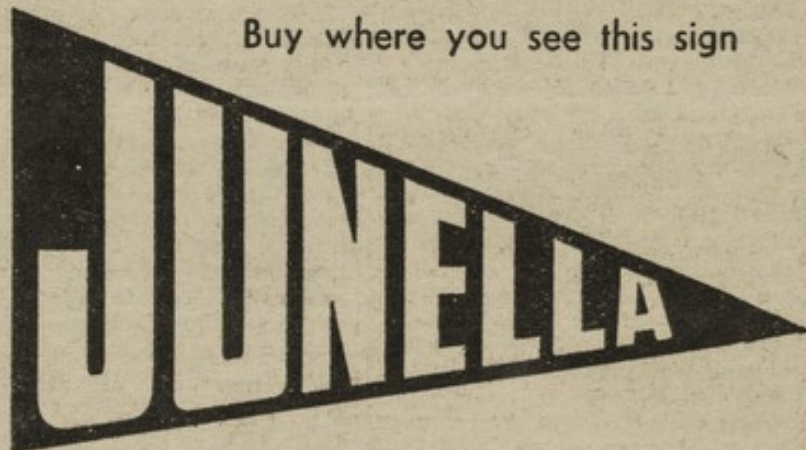
STATION ROAD, NEW MILTON. Tel. 244
HIGH STREET, MILFORD-ON-SEA. Tel. 3206

For the

FRESHEST FISH

you ever tasted

Buy where you see this sign



FILLETS

The best you can buy

Supplied by:-

J. MARR (FISH MERCHANTS) LTD.

Fishmarket. Southampton

Phone 22821

R. V. Hospital

I HAVE read with interest the correspondence in connection with the above and think with the existence of the Fawley Refinery so near and to the usual windward side that the site would be most unsuitable for use as another Hospital or for residential purposes and it looks very much as if the waterside is soon to be given over to commercial purposes: Another refinery or Docks.

It is of course now too late but if a few years back when the University was being put up such an opportunity had occurred, it would have made an ideal site and our city would have had something to be proud of: The buildings forming its frontage could have been adapted and the whole retained as a screen to any more modern concrete blocks deemed essential.

I shall watch with interest for any further news. — **NETLEY NAPIER BROWN.** (Bursledon, Godshill, Fordingbridge.)

SERVICE
TYRE SUPPLIES
LTD.

117-9 Millbrook Rd Southampton
(Southampton 21398) and

84-86 Southampton Rd. Eastleigh
(Eastleigh 3027)

Open Monday to Saturday 8.30 to
6.00 and Sunday Morning Late
night Opening Friday

SOUTH
ENGINEERING

WINCHESTER ROAD



No small arm this

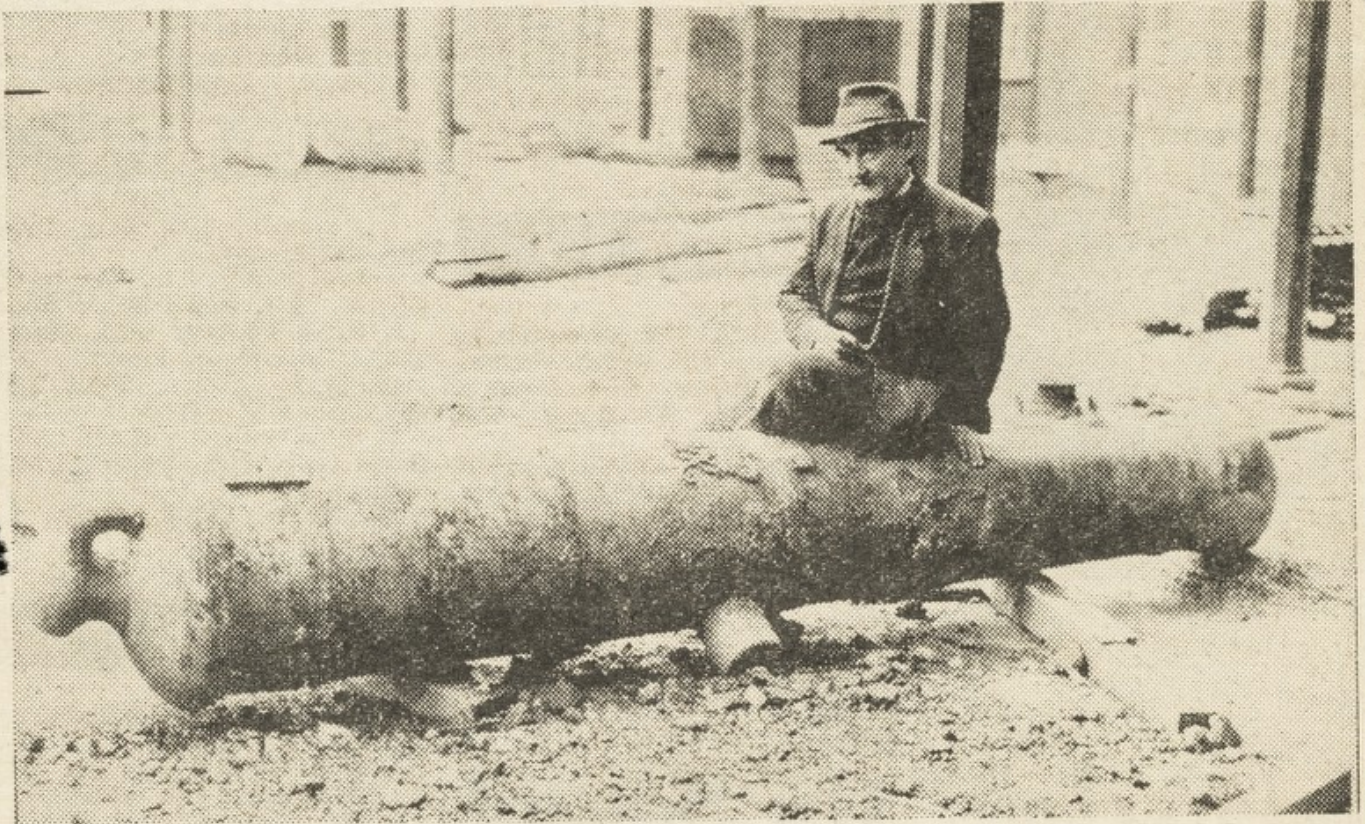
THREE-FEET of cannon, sticking upright from the ground, looked an easy enough job for demolition worker Barry Kennett. A few swings with the old pickaxe and the ancient gun would be lying at his feet in no time.

That's what he thought, anyway. He sweated his way through two-feet of ground, then gave up and called for a mechanical digger.

Good thing he did, or he would be at it still. When the cannon was finally withdrawn from its resting place it measured 10ft. 6in. long. "The surprise of my life," said Barry. "I reckon it would have taken me a month to get the thing out with my pickaxe. It probably weighs four tons."

The cannon, bearing a George III crest, is one of four embedded just in front of the old Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, now being demolished. Only the one has so far been lifted, but it looks as if all are of the same type with 6in. diameter barrels.

One theory is that the guns once belonged to a shore battery, perhaps guarding the Solent approaches. Similar cannon have in recent years been recovered from old fort sites in the Totland area of the Isle of Wight.—"Echo" photos.



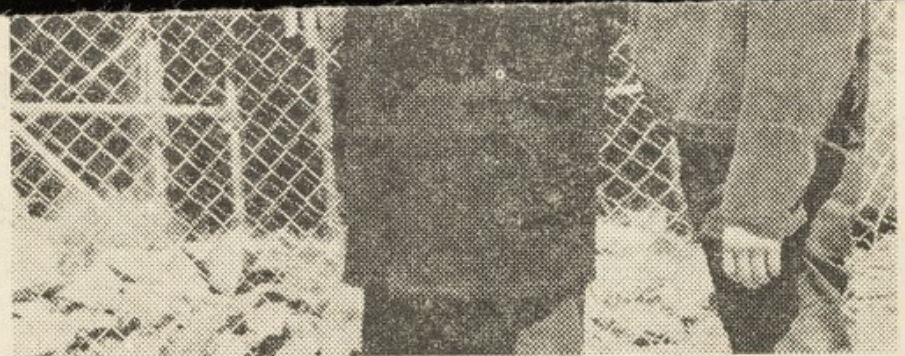
6.17, Get Smart!
 6.40, Top Firm.
 7.5, Tomorrow's World.
 7.35, The Rat Patrol.
 8, Softly, Softly.
 8.50, News; Weather.
 9.5, The Wednesday Play: The Lump.
 10.20, Twenty-four Hours.
 10.55, Weather.
 10.57, Masterworks.
 11.27, Postscript.

BBC TV-2

7.30, In Your Place.
 8, News.
 8.5, Man Alive.
 8.35, Thirty-minute Theatre.
 9.5, The Hollywood Musical.
 10.40, Mind and Motive.
 11.10, Newsroom; Weather.
 11.30, Late Night Line-up.



Marie Kean is in "Mrs. Thursday" tonight.



Leslie Sands and Colin Farrell in "The Lump," tonight's Wednesday play.

SOUTHERN TV

4.20, Crossroads. 4.45, Playtime.
 5, Zoo Time. 5.25, William Tell.
 5.55, ITN News. 6.5, Day by Day, introduced by Kenneth Kendall.
 6.45, In Kite's Country.
 7, University Challenge. 7.30, Coronation Street.
 8, Mrs. Thursday.
 8.55, ITN News. 9.10, Cinema.
 9.40, Fly-in. 10.25, Southern News Extra. 10.35, Professional Boxing.
 11.10, ITN News Headlines. 11.15, Reporting '67. 11.45, The Weather Forecast followed by Questionnaire.

LONDON TV

4.45, Playtime.
 5, Zoo Time. 5.25, Adventures of the Seaspray. 5.55, News; Weather.
 6.8, Crossroads. 6.30, Batman.
 7, University Challenge. 7.30, Coronation Street.
 8, The Rat Catchers. 8.55, News. 9.10, Cinema. 9.40, Fly-in. 10.25, The Frost Programme.
 11, News.
 11.2, Professional Boxing. 11.47, Dateline; Weather. 11.57, Dialogue With Doubt.

Radio News

On Sound

THIRD NETWORK

3, Composer's Portrait: Thomas Wilson. 3.30, La Clemenza Di Tito. 5.50, Jazz.
 6.25, Programmes. 6.27, Markets. 6.30, Facts In Focus. 6.35, Let's Go!
 7, Understanding Music. 7.30, Alas, Good Friday.
 8.5, Buxtehude. 8.20, Research. 9.5, Briggflatts.
 10.10, Monteverdi.
 11, News. 11.15, Markets.

LUXEMBURG

6.30 pm, Peter Aldersley.
 7, Requests. 7.30, Disc Drive. 7.45, 208 Turntable.
 8, Sam Costa. 8.30, New to the Charts. 8.45, Radio Bingo Show.
 9, Keith Fordyce. 9.15, Topical Tunes. 9.30, David Jacobs.
 10, Peter Murray. 10.30, Teen and Twenty Disc Club.
 11, Spin with the Stars. 11.15, David Gell. 11.30, Pops Till Midnight.
 12, Music. 12.30, Music for Sophisticats.
 1-2, Music.

AEN

6 pm, News; Music.
 7, News; Obsession. 7.30, Voyage of the Scarlet Queen.
 8, News; Off the Wing Tip. 8.15, On the Scene. 8.30, Music Hall.
 9, World Scene. 9.30, Tonight Show.
 10, News; Sports. 10.10, John

Swin-don

PROTOTYPE OF VICTORIA CROSS FOUND

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

A VICTORIA CROSS was found in a copper casket beneath the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hants, yesterday, 110 years after the award was instituted. The Army considers it to be the prototype.

It was on Jan. 29, 1856, that the Victoria Cross decoration was instituted by Royal Warrant.

Four months later Queen Victoria opened the hospital. It is now being demolished.

“ Absolutely priceless ”

Maj.-Gen. A. Sachs, representative Colonel Commandant of the R A M C for 1966, said the prototype was “ absolutely priceless.”

Brig. Sir John Smyth, V.C., president of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association, said last night he did not know who made the original drawings from which Queen Victoria made her choice of design.

The Cross at Netley had no inscription on the reverse side and so was not a true V.C.

Picture—P26

T R and Reliance Telephone, which is wholly owned by G E C, are two of the largest British companies renting internal telephone systems. G E C considers



A. Weinstock, G.E.C.'s managing director.

the linking of the two would bring material advantages. Both have expanded their installations and profits in recent years, but growth is becoming more difficult in the face of rising costs, tax and other legislation.

Commercial embracing of T R would make good sense. Rationalisation would bring significant savings and G E C's research and development resources would facilitate the design and supply of the more sophisticated types of equipment which will be required in the future.

Overseas, the subsidiaries of T R in Eire, South Africa, Canada and Australia are in countries

Netley stone

I SHALL be there next Wednesday when the big question mark is removed. Wouldn't miss it. After all Netley Hospital's foundation stone has had a build-up as big as the hospital's knock-down, or its ghost.

The stone was laid 110 years ago by **Queen Victoria**. Under it, they say, are coins, medals and so on. But no-one really knows exactly what will be discovered.

One theory is that the

original Victoria Cross is buried there.

Next Wednesday, in the partly demolished hospital, they will find out. It will be done with ceremony.

After the lifting of the stone any historical items uncovered will be presented to the representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Army Medical Corps, **Major-Gen. A. Sachs**. Doing the presenting . . . **Col. J. F. D. Murphy**, officer commanding the Royal Victoria Hospital.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Southampton are expected to be there and the guest list is glowing with generals. There will be 12 of them.

and humour—with Sissy Jupe, the naturally wise circus child, and Mr. Sleary, the cheerful alcoholic.”

LIGHT

TODAY

2.30, Swingalong. 3.31, Music Parade. 4.30, Bandstand.

5, Pop Over Europe. 5.31, Chorus Everyone!

6, Take a Bow. 6.30, Have A Go!

7, News; Radio Newsreel. 7.25, Sports. 7.30, Forces Startime. 8.15, Nord-Ring.

9, Time For Old Time. 10, Dancing Round Europe.

11, Pete's Party. 1.31, Derek Franklin Trio. 2, News; Weather.

TOMORROW

6.55 am, First Day of the Week.

7, Weather; News; Morning

Bradshaw. 7.15, Gotterdammerung: Act 2. 8.20, George Devine 1910-1966. 9.5, Gotterdammerung: Act 3. 10.20, Violin Music: Ysaye and Bach. 11, News.

LUXEMBURG

TODAY

6.30 Peter Aldersley. 7, Requests. 7.45, Mu's Music.

8, Peter Murray. 8.30, Don Moss. 8.45, Radio Bingo Show.

9, Oxfam Silver Disc Show. 9.30, CBS Show. 9.45, Battle of the Giants.

10, Jimmy Young. 10.30, Tony Hall.

11, Keith Fordyce. 11.30, Jack Jackson. 12, Guys, Gals and Groups. 12.30, Music. 1-2, Records.

All a matter of proportion

ARCHITECTS—more than most of us—like to keep a sense of proportion. That's why that great green dome over the old Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley has to go.

I pass this news on to those who are critical of the decision to include the famous dome in the demolition programme now continuing.

Wouldn't it be better to leave it as the focal point of the hospital's preserved chapel? is the argument I've heard.

Well, Mr. D. N. O. Harris, a chief architect with the Ministry of Public Building and Works, thinks not. "When the hospital has gone, the tower with the dome on top would be out of scale with the chapel," he explains.

And this was the considered opinion of other leading architects with the Ministry. But Mr. Harris did go on to say: "We are not, however, just knocking this dome down without any thought for the future."

Once the old tower and dome is demolished the chapel's front elevation (which faces Southampton Water) will be remodelled. "The chapel will have a proper gable end on that side, and projecting beyond that will be a sort of single-storey entrance. This entrance will have features in it which will be decorative, and instead of a tower there will be a kind of portico."

He thinks that this type of thing would be very much in keeping with the character of the chapel, which he describes as "a nice building architecturally".

"In fact I think the portico will enhance the chapel's appearance," he says.

Never at any time, he emphasises, had there been a firm decision to retain the dome and tower. It is also intended that the cross on the dome—which may soon be lifted off by helicopter—should go to the Royal Army Medical Corps museum near Aldershot, and not top the new portico.

A start on the chapel's new front will be made within 12 months. "After the hospital is finally demolished completely the chapel will stand in complete isolation," says Mr. Harris.

"But it is intended that the whole area will be carefully landscaped with trees and shrubs, and that the underground air-raid shelters between the old hospital site and Southampton Water will also go—if there are no operational requirements for them."

A look we he

THE way we behave at a general election is being shown to British American eyes. This is the BBC programme called "The Hecklers".

It is directed by Joseph Strick, who has many films to his credit, including "The Savage Eye" and "Ulysses."

This one shows the reaction and counter-reaction between speakers and their audiences at election meetings all over Britain.

The cameras were there to capture emotion, scorn, feelings running high, and politicians fighting for their political lives.

A number of well-known political figures appear, including the leaders of the two major parties. The heckling leads to violence, as well as laughter.

Strick found the British institution of heckling something rather impressive and moving, also amazing.

I have never, he says, heard of a heckler who wasn't immediately evicted from an American political meeting.

The rest, in brief

"In Search of a Holiday" (Southern 6.35)—a sample selection of viewers' problems and queries are answered.

* * *

"Barnacle Bill" (Southern 7.0)—film with Alec Guinness who plays no fewer than six parts.

* * *

"Outlook" (BBC-2, 7.30)—inquiries into the flight from the land and the crowding in the south-east and midlands.

* * *

"The Virginian" (BBC-2, 9.5)—another one of those about the pretty school ma'm teaching a young cowhand.

* * *

"New Release" (BBC-2, 10.20)—recreates the story of John Berger's book "A Fortunate Man," about a country doctor.

* * *

"The Unconquered Ocean" (BBC-1, 11.7)—the last of four programmes. This one is about marine biology.

**BE
TV-WISE
NOW!**

**PAVE THE WAY
FOR COLOUR
—THE GIBBARD WAY**

Avoid tying yourself to a brand new black and white TV now.

BE WISE and rent a low cost TV without paying the ten months advance rental required by law (Sets made prior to February, 1964). Then when colour TV is available, you will not be tied to an old model and will be

Hamble want RVH inquiry

HAMBLE Parish Council want a full inquiry into whether the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley should be demolished.

In a letter to Netley Parish Council — who have already decided to oppose the Ministry of Works decision — Hamble said: "We feel we should offer you our support".

A full inquiry should be made before the decision to demolish the hospital was finally taken, added the letter.

But Winchester RDC have decided not to support Netley's opposition. A letter read to last night's meeting said: "We hear from the Ministry of Works that the cost of restoring Netley Hospital would be almost as high as that of building a new one".

In view of this, the RDC would support Hampshire County Council, who want to use the hospital grounds as an open space, said the letter.

Last night's meeting decided to wait for an answer to a letter sent to the Ministry of Works before taking further action.

Referees: W. Norris, P. Gunner, C. Park, B. Hardy.

Soton netball teams' success against Bucks

SOUTHAMPTON netball team played Bucks County at Swindon on Saturday, and all three teams won their matches.

The first team had a particularly hard game and were strongly challenged by the Bucks team until the final quarter, when Southampton's solid defence, accurate passing and shooting gave them a winning lead.

Scores were: 1st team, Southampton 33, Bucks 25; 2nd team, Southampton 56, Bucks 10, 3rd team, Southampton 65, Bucks 5.

Southampton was represented by—1st team: F. Cook (captain), W. Salway, C. Parker, J. Long, T. Shave, D. Mitchell, D. Bryant; 2nd team: B. Griggs (captain), S. Blandford, M. Evans, J. Osman, V. Bulpitt, M. Baker, J. Gibson; 3rd team: V. Osmond (captain), J. Vivian, P. Hill, L. Attwood, R. Hallett, B. Peden, S. Riddell.



Col. J. F. D. Murphy, Officer Commanding, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hants., displaying a prototype Victoria Cross and a Crimea Medal found yesterday in a copper casket during demolition of the hospital.



Tran Van Van, 58, a prominent South Vietnamese politician, who was shot dead in Saigon yesterday.

A LETTER AME

By OUR OWN CO

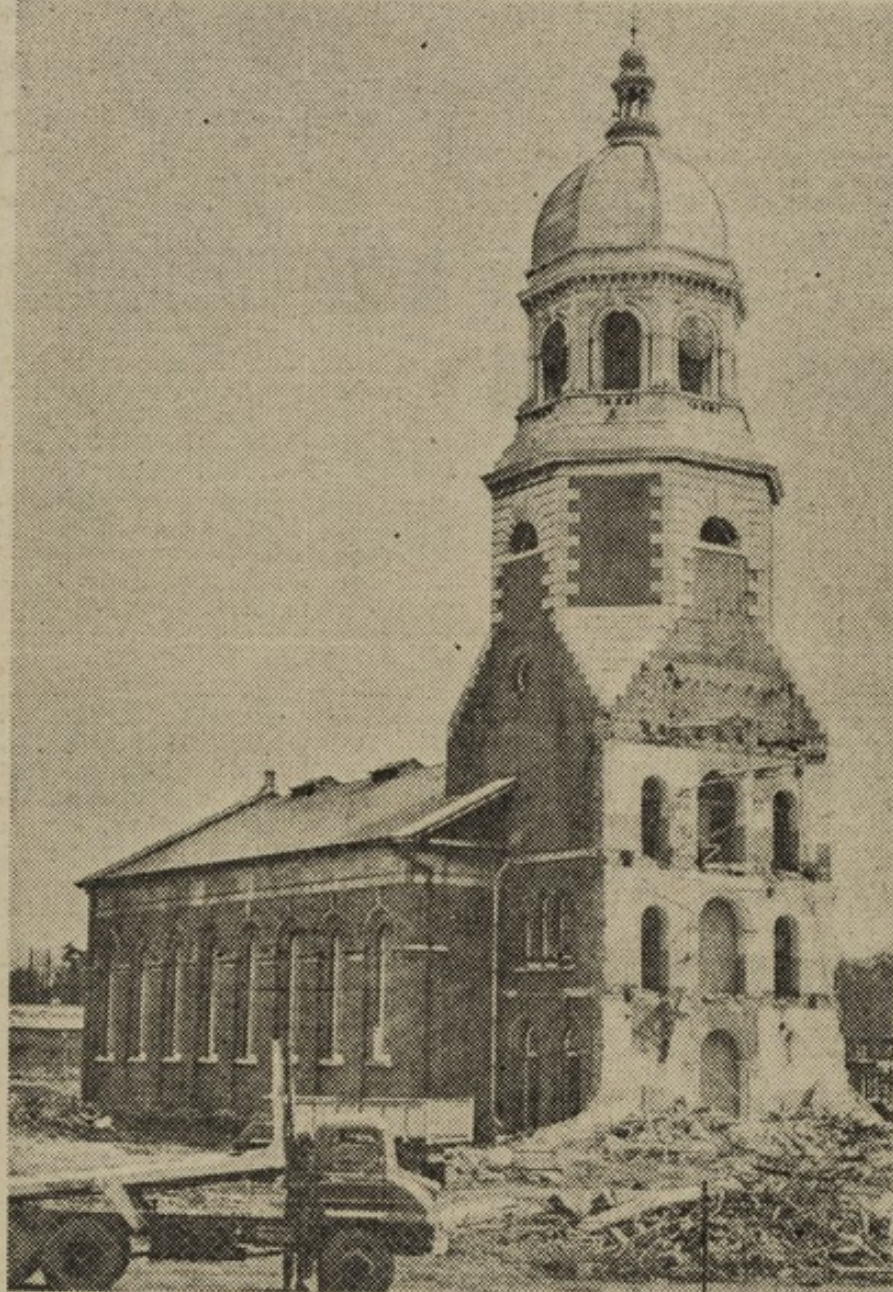
SINCE New York is generally spoken of as the richest city in the world, it is logical to assume that Christmas sales rung up by the Fifth Avenue stores also constitute something of a world record each year.

That being so, the hand-me-down attitude adopted by the major department stores when it comes to Christmas decorations is a perennial puzzle. Not that they aren't elaborate. They are, but they are the same every year.

Saks trots out the same old gilded pipe organ each year and plays gramophone records to conceal the fact that it is a dummy. Best and Co. clings determinedly to giant plastic laurel wreaths and stars. The first aluminium-sheathed skyscraper on Fifth Avenue, the 666 Building, speckles its sides with lighted red stars—as it has done ever since its opening—and reminds people of measles in childhood. Lord and Taylor's usually gets the prize on aesthetic grounds but for the same gossamer Christmas tree in

IL SANCTIONS

BY MA



ELEVENTH-HOUR second thoughts are being had over whether or not the central tower and dome at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, should be demolished.

All seemed to be cut and dried when at the end of March I had words with Mr. D. N. O. Harris, a chief architect with the Ministry of Public Building.

"We decided that when the hospital was gone, the tower with the dome on top, would be out of scale with the hospital's chapel," he said.

Since then, however, the actual hospital structure adjoining

the tower has crumbled. And some people now think the architect's sense of proportion is not so greatly offended after all.

So soon the architects will go into another huddle.

If the tower and dome is re-prieved money will not have to go on erecting an alternative front entrance to the chapel, although, of course, the old tower will have to be given a new facade.

The cross, which may have been lifted off by RAF helicopter, would also remain over the dome.

Denis Goacher, who speaks the Byron part and did the research, says: "I think we have something more than a portrait of the poet."

The intention is to let Byron speak for himself.

* * *

Jack de Manio is back to Home Service "Today" duty this week after his usual Spring break.

"It's not been a holiday," he says. "I've been working very hard writing a book about the human side of BBC activities."

LIGHT

3, Swingalong. 4.15, The Dales. 4.31, Racing Results. 4.32, Newly Pressed. 5.32, Roundabout. 7.20, Sports. 7.30, Sporting Chance.

8, News; Comment. 8.15, Souvenir. 8.45, The Embassy Lark. 9.15, Vienna City of Dreams.

10, Strings by Starlight. 10.31, Music. 1, It's One O'Clock. 2, News; Weather.

Lions give pensioners a holiday

IT was holiday morning recently for ten Southampton old age pensioners who, as guests of Southampton's Lions Club, gathered in the Gaumont cinema car park for the coach that was to take them to their week's "everything paid" holiday in Southsea.

They will join 190 other old people, guests of various Lions Clubs from the South and West, and will be entertained for the week by Portsmouth Lions Club.

Climax of the holiday will be an Edwardian ball next Friday, with the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth and the presidents and officers of the Lions Club among the guests.

The holiday is an annual event, and last year at Bournemouth, one old gentleman became romantically entangled with an old lady also on the holiday. They were married when they got back to Southampton.

Southampton Lions Club president, Mr. Eric Cawte saw the coach-load off.

7, News; Music. 8, News; The Whistler. 8.30, 21st Precinct.

9, News; On the Scene. 9.30, Stars and Stripes.

10, World Scene. 10.30, Tonight.

11, News; Sports. 11.10, World of Money. 11.15, John Doremus.

12, News; Music; Date With Chris.

REDIFFUSION

A—Home. B—Light. C—7 am to 6.30 pm, Music Programme; 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm, Foreign Selection; 7.30 pm to 3 am, Radio Luxembourg. D—BBC2. E—BBC1. F—Southern TV. G—London TV.

HOSPITALS

Today, 8—9.10 pm, Your Tuesday Requests (D.J., Zena Millard). Royal South Hants: Mr. T. Allen, Mr. C. Vaughan, Mr. L. Booty, Mrs. J. Leahy, Mrs. J. Perren, Mrs. B. Farrant, Miss M. Conner, Mrs. D. Lann, Mr. B. Payne, Mr. R. Vane. General: Mr. H. Spencer, Mrs. J. Connis. Chest: Mrs. B. Smith. Eye: Mr. F. Allen, Mr. P. Donnelly, Mr. F. Gray. Fred Woolley: Mr. T. Woodhouse.

Wednesday, 7, For the Children.

8, Look Around.

8.15, Dymond's Time.

8.45, Have You Heard.

9, Epilogue.

Thursday, 8, Music Makers, Part 1.

8.15, Thursday Requests.

8.45, Music Makers, Part 2.

9, Epilogue.

United service at Winchester

THE Mayor of Winchester, Mrs. W. J. Carpenter Turner with her husband, Mr. W. J. Carpenter Turner, attended evening worship at Weeke Methodist Church on Sunday. The occasion was the quarterly united service with the Parish of Weeke, and the church was full.

The Rev. Bryan F. Spinney, Methodist minister, conducted the service, and lessons were read by the Mayor and by Mr. A. Finch. The clergy of the parish were present, and the combined Anglican and Methodist choirs led the singing.

Dr. D. M. A. Mercer, diocesan lay reader, spoke on the implications and relevance of worship.

Cross may go in helicopter swoop

"Echo" Staff Reporter

A ROYAL AIR FORCE helicopter may soon swoop down on the old Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley and lift the huge metal cross off the 150ft. central dome.

The cross, about 10 feet high, forms the highest point of the Southampton Water front building which before demolition workers moved in last year extended upwards of 1,400 feet. A helicopter lift-up is thought to be the most economical method of removing the cross without damage.

If the plan goes ahead, it will be the second time a cross has made headline news during the hospital's demolition. On December 7 last year the prototype of the Victoria Cross was found underneath the hospital's foundation stone, laid by Queen Victoria in 1856.

Calling in a helicopter was mainly the idea of Col. J. F. D. Murphy, who commands nearby Royal Victoria Hospital. "It is still very much in the exploratory stage at the moment," he told me. "Much depends on the weight involved."

As well as the cross, it is hoped the helicopter will lift the two large and ornate weather-vanes which top the towers over the east and west wings.

"I hope the cross and the weather-vanes will be incorporated in a new Army hospital that may be built in the future—either here at Netley or somewhere else."

A familiar landmark

"I think many people knew Netley Hospital by that cross, which could be seen for miles around."

The cost of bringing down the cross and weather-vanes by conventional means would probably be too prohibitive because of the amount of scaffolding needed. He thought the cross was made of bronze.

No. 22 Squadron at RAF, Thorney Island, who have two air/sea rescue Whirlwinds, agreed to look into the practicability of the lift-up and have already made three hovering reconnaissances over the hospital site.

Much depends on the weight of the cross and weather-vanes and whether the three items are not too firmly embedded in their lofty perches. So while a helicopter has reconnoitred from above, demolition workers, headed by Mr. William Perry, have been making expert estimates from inside the three towers.

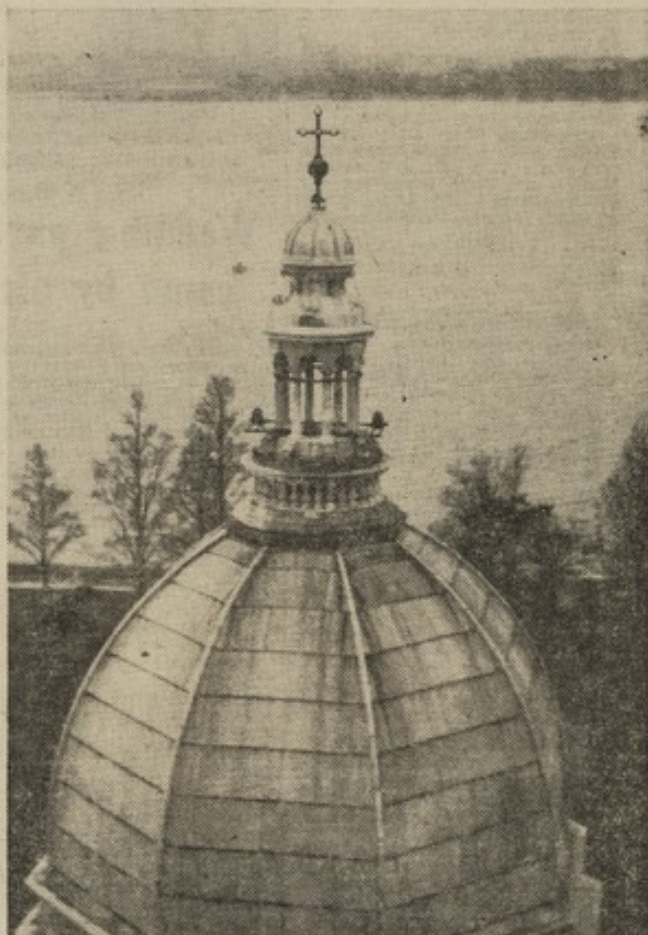
Another problem to overcome is to see that when the cross and weather-vanes are loosened they are not blown off by winds before "Operation Lift-up" gets under way.

Another hurdle

Yet another hurdle is obtaining permission for the job from the Air Ministry, but it is not likely they would stand in the way.

A spokesman for No. 22 Squadron told me: "The Whirlwind's lifting cable is limited to taking 450lb."

"But in a job like this a man would have to be winched down on



Helicopter's eye view of the cross over Netley Hospital. When it was put there over 110 years ago the opposite bank of Southampton Water was just marsh and farm land—now there is Fawley oil refinery.

the cable to secure it to the cross or weather-vanes—so these items must not weigh more than about 250lb."

The cross will be particularly missed by Southampton Harbour Board who for years have used it as one of their hydrographic survey marks.

"I have only just written a letter to the Ministry of Defence, who own the hospital site, to seek permission to erect another mark—on a timber tripod—in the Netley grounds," said the board's general manager and clerk, Mr. C. P. Eastburn.

Doctor and nurse are married

A DOCTOR and nurse who met at Middlesex Hospital, London, were married at Highfield Church, Southampton.

The bridegroom, Dr. David Smith Andrew, is the son of Dr. S. S. Andrew and Mrs. Andrews, of Hulmes-road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester. The bride, Miss Linda Esme West, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. G. West, of 60, Granby-grove, Highfield.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a white crepe dress and train, with yolk and trumpet sleeves, and floral headdress with full-length veil. Her bouquet was of white freesias, stephanotis, and lily of the valley.

The bridesmaids, Miss Mary and Miss Christiane Andrew, the bridegroom's sisters, wore cherry red



MR. AND MRS. GANDER
—Photo: Bridge Studio, Woolston.

Wedding party came by air

FRIENDS of the bridegroom's family from the Continent flew to Southampton Airport in their aircraft to attend the wedding of Miss Brenda Joyce Monckton and Mr. David John Gander, at Jesus Chapel, Peartree, Southampton.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Monckton, of Bishops-road, Southampton, and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Gander of Pyrford-road, West Byfleet, Weybridge, Surrey.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length white silk Grecian-style dress with three-quarter length sleeves and a full-length train which was edged with Guipure lace.

Her headdress was a tiara of white flowers, pearls and crystals, which held a full-length bouffant veil and train all edged with Guipure lace.

She carried a bouquet of pink and white carnations and stephanotis. Three bridesmaids and a pageboy attended the bride.

The bridesmaids were Miss Beverley Picton, who wore a full-length empire line dress of peach coloured wild silk with short sleeves. Her headdress was of matching coloured daisies and she carried a bouquet of all-white carnations.

The Misses Lynda and Carol Townsend wore full-length white satin dresses. The skirt of the dresses was divided to give a coat effect to show a peach panel underneath, and was edged with Guipure lace. Their headdresses were of peach coloured petals in a circulet. They carried balls of white and pink carnations.

Master Edwin Swash, the bridegroom's nephews, was the pageboy. He wore short black velvet trousers, a white satin shirt, buckled shoes and white socks and a grey top hat. The best man was Mr. David Fisk.

After the service, which was conducted by the Rev. S. C. Wincott, the Vicar, the couple held a reception for 100 guests at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton, before touring the West Country on their honeymoon.



The bride and bridegroom.
—Photo: R. Harris.

dresses and carried freesias. Mr. Anthony Crossley was best man.

The service was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Exall.

Ninety guests were entertained at the reception at Botleigh Grange Hotel. The honeymoon is being spent in the Scilly Isles.

EX-COUNTY TABLE TENNIS PLAYER WEDS

Country table tennis player, Mr. E. W. Swash, of Marlborough, Wiltshire, is to be married to Miss Lynda Townsend, of Southampton, on Saturday, June 10, at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Monckton, of Bishops-road, Southampton. The bridegroom is the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Gander, of Pyrford-road, West Byfleet, Surrey.

Wedding unites


Philomena, of Marlborough, Wiltshire, is to be married to Mr. David John Gander, of Pyrford-road, West Byfleet, Surrey, on Saturday, June 10, at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Monckton, of Bishops-road, Southampton. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Gander, of Pyrford-road, West Byfleet, Surrey.



SPORTS JACKETS (Illustration)
After the same — or perfectly dressed in the wool, sports jacket. Size 36-42.

TERYLENE/WORSTED T
An important addition to the wardrobe — resistant 55% Terylene/45% Worsted. Self supporting. 30in.—42in. waist, 29—31 (44in. waist 95/-).

"DEBROYAL" SUITS (Illustration)
There's something new in "Debroyal" 2-piece suits — are looking your best in fashion sense. S.B. style in dark and mid-grey regular, long and short.


EDWARD JONES
 A DEBENHAM

1,000,000 CUBIC YARDS



For the demolition of the
Royal Victoria Hospital, Bill Perry
of **Perry's Demolition (Southampton) Ltd.**
is delighted to have:

SUPPLIED BY
SOUTH HANTS MOTOR CO. LTD.

PRINCES STREET - NORTHAM - SOUTHAMPTON - Tel. 28371

behind him.

YE-LEVEL
H AUTOMATIC
N TAKES SIX
MB CHOPS.



A DROP
TURKEY.



D GAS with
Cookers
orld 43C £39.7.0

ing.
s cooker

paperback (OUP, 12s. 6d.). It will delight all who love the sea and admire the men who sail on it. It is a book without names.

Buildings of England' ever since the first volume and still not being sick of them."

—A. F. STEWARD.

Crime in Paperback

ALL-SYSTEMS-GO

AMONG the new Penguin paperbacks are two off the crime shelf by Michael Innes, "MONEY FROM HOLME" and "A NIGHT OF ERRORS" (both 3s. 6d.).

I am not a Michael Innes fan, but I found the first, about a famous painter and supposed revolution victim turning up at his own memorial exhibition, the sort of tale you don't easily put down. I cannot say the same of the second story, though it is ingenious enough.

I am a Raymond Chandler fan and I noted from the jacket on Len Deighton's "FUNERAL IN BERLIN" (5s.), that the "San Francisco Chronicle" dubbed Deighton "the Raymond Chandler of the cloak-and-dagger set." Fair enough. Tough, highly readable, all-systems-go stuff this—a tremendous spy novel.

Another story by a master—Dashiell Hammett's "THE DAIN CURSE" (3s. 6d.). Plenty of nasty sticky endings woven into a bizarre tale of a girl and a hoodoo.

And talking of endings, H. R. F. Keating's "THE DOG IT WAS THAT DIED" (3s. 6d.), a yarn about a man on the run in Ireland, comes out neatly after a clever build-up.

James Barlow's "THIS SIDE OF THE SKY" (5s.) has a Cold War setting. American Air Force major (family man) carries The Bomb in his B-47 and has a guilty love for a young actress (married). A smoothly told tale.

Off the science fiction shelf is Susan Cooper's "MANDRAKE" (4s.). A tale of the country being dragged down, city by city, by an all-powerful Minister of Planning, with diabolical happenings in Hampshire... and a Ministry boss lording it under the hanging Round Table in Winchester. Now, there's a thought! —COLIN HAXTON.

Chandler the craftsman

A big fat Penguin that stands alone is Raymond Chandler's "KILLER IN THE RAIN" (6s.) which, like the magnificent pearl-handled Colt automatic on the cover has eight shots in the magazine (and I don't want any small arms experts writing to tell me that this Colt holds 10 shots).

"Killer in the Rain" contains eight short stories which, says Philip Durham in the introduction, has lain buried in the crumbling pages of pulp magazines for a quarter of a century.

Chandler, Dulwich educated, was a Los Angeles businessman until the big American depression of the 1930's. His business collapsed and he became the writer of fiction. Parts of the eight stories in this book came to form the basis of other, longer stories, and thus have

considerable collectors' interest. Turning short stories into novels was one of Chandler's finest skills.

For example, a large part of Chandler's "The Big Sleep" (1939) was made from the short story "Killer in the Rain" (Black Mask magazine, January, 1935). The short story being a separate art form with rules of its own, and not merely a compressed novel. Chandler's method implies a good deal of rewriting and adaptation. Comparisons between novels and their short story origins should be a valuable lesson for budding authors.

—E. J. HOULDSWORTH.

Drink levy to sober Poles

WARSZAWA, hardest drinking city in vodka-loving Poland, has embarked on a two-year programme to teach Poles to sober up.

A levy of 15 per cent. on every bottle of vodka and other spirits sold is to be used to finance television films on alcoholism, teenage lectures, summer camps for children of drunken parents, and expanded medical services for the chronic drunkard.

Warsaw's 13 sobering - up stations, visited each year by some 20,000 heavy drinkers, 95 per cent. of whom are men, are being extended and re-equipped.

Over 30 city restaurants, says Reuter, have been deprived of their liquor licences.

But few expect rapid or dramatic results from the "drink less" drive.

KNOW BETTER

At one time, the authorities urged Poles to drink wines and beer as an alternative to the stronger vodka. Now they know better.

Instead of switching from vodka to less intoxicating drinks, the average Pole today drinks more of all three. The intake of beer is five times higher than before World War II.

All this puts Poland in the top four world consumers of alcohol—though if vodka alone is considered, she probably tops the list. —Reuter.

'Echo' Letter-box

Netley Hospital closure deplored

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo."

THE decision of the Ministry of Works to close and demolish Netley Hospital is a typical example of the lack of vision and imagination of those in positions of authority today.

With mental, emotional and spiritual illness on the increase, this wonderful site could be utilised to its full capacity once again. This time not for those brutally maimed by the terrors of war but for those whose minds are brutally maimed by the impossible pace of the 20th Century rat-race.

This magnificent building is a work of art and should be preserved to house works of art—a powerful centre of beauty and regeneration of mind and spirit could I am sure be accomplished here—in fact an ideal situation where the arts and science could meet on an equal footing for the benefit of humanity.

Part of the building could be allocated for research — while others for a psychiatric training school, an occupational therapy unit (for which there is an urgent need here in this district for civilian patients), an art gallery, perhaps a theatre and a recreational unit.

There is plenty of room for everything needed to be incorporated into one grand self-contained centre which could become the pride of England—perhaps the world—who knows—the horizons are limitless!

The Ministry of Works spend thousands of pounds a year on the restoration and preservation of non-functional ancient monuments, etc. Why not restore and preserve a functional Netley Hospital? Surely its historical value alone warrants this?

It has been argued it would cost far too much to make it functional again, but should we always allow ourselves to evaluate these things in terms of Lsd? Too often man is blinded by finance and commercialism to see any further than the end of his nose.

Therefore I earnestly appeal to the Ministry to have second thoughts before they embark on this unwarranted course of wholesale destruction. — ANNE NEAL (MRS.) (Penshurst, 9, Abbey-hill, Netley Abbey).

EUROPEAN M



Netley Hospital

THANK you for the publication of my letter (January 7) about the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

It may be of interest to many of your readers that an appeal fund for the restoration and preservation of this historic building is being launched by a handful of dedicated people here in Netley—(had we known its fate before now we would have started this years ago!)

It is difficult to understand the wanton neglect of such a wonderful place over the years—indeed, it is a disgrace to the country that this rare and valuable site hasn't been utilised before now for the benefit of suffering humanity. The peace and healing tranquility of this beautiful unspoilt area would be ideal for such a purpose — in fact, many inferior mental hospitals, etc., could be closed in favour of Netley.

In the past, within the walls of Netley Hospital, many thousands of our wounded soldiers have regained their health and strength, and in 1945 we thought it was all over; but now we are fighting a very different kind of war, an unseen one that insidiously creeps upon the minds and creative spirit of man. The victims of this type of war suffer unseen wounds in terms of blood and gore, their torture is deeply embedded within their minds and their souls.

The poet Rilke has said: "Each torpid turn of the world, has such disinherited children, to whom no longer what's been, and not yet what's coming belongs."

Therefore let's preserve Netley Hospital for "what's coming", and so help the disinherited children of the world today!—**ANNE NEAL** (Penshurst, 9, Abbey Hill, Netley Abbey).



are tw

year to

no one

Netley Hospital

I WAS delighted to learn from your correspondent's letter in Thursday's "Echo" that a fund is being inaugurated for the restoration and preservation of the Royal Military Hospital at Netley.

Your readers who are distressed by the Ministry of Works' decision to demolish this famous building might be comforted in the knowledge that Mr. John Betjeman (who always has such matters very close to heart) has informed me in a letter today that he is very much concerned with this particular case of apparent lack of foresight, and is drawing it to the attention of the Royal Fine Art Commission, 2, Carlton-gardens, SW1

Sympathisers would, I have no doubt, further help this cause by writing to the secretary of that body—in addition to contributing to the afore-mentioned appeal fund which is, indeed, a very noble and praiseworthy effort by those responsible and deserves every measure of support.

Perhaps the organisers would care to give us the address to which contributions may be sent when applicable.—(Mr.) P. W. SEEKINGS-FOSTER (348a, Winchester-road, Southampton).

Make it a recreation centre

Though I sympathise with Mrs. Neal's concern for suffering humanity, I do not think that the suggestion to utilise Netley Hospital as an asylum is a good one, particularly as the buildings have been declared unserviceable, however picturesque they may be.

If this site is so desirable, surely the right thing is to benefit the greatest number of people; so why not a really good recreation centre?

Not many people have had the privilege of seeing the hospital grounds, but I understand there is already the nucleus of a golf course. Would it not be possible to develop this? It could provide a source of revenue and would be more than appreciated by people on this side of the river who have

to travel to Southampton municipal course for a game.

Everyone knows how popular Netley Shore is in summer, but its close proximity to the main road makes it far from ideal for children. Netley Hospital beach would provide a lovely safe spot for parents to bring their children to play.—NETLEY ABBEY RESIDENT. (Name and address supplied to Editor).

Double: Ross Clan (nap)
and Tickler.

MCC's TEN WICKETS

IN the event of racing being
row, punters can concentr
best bet is undoubtedly Ken C
extended three miles of the K

The nine-year-old has already
recorded wins at Perth, Carlisle,
Ayr and Kelso this season, and
has never been better.

Those listed in opposition
include George Vergette's Purple
Silk, the 1964 Grand National
runner-up, Denys Smith's Johnnie
Walker, who beat current ante-
post Aintree favourite Freddie at
Ayr during their New Year meet-
ing, and W. Crawford's consistent
Kildarton, but Moidore's Token
can remain unbeaten in five starts
during the new campaign.

OVERDUE FOR WIN

Denys Smith's Wife's Choice
will run well in the opening
Healaugh Novices' Hurdle
(division one) without heading
Tommy Shedden's Highfield Boy.

WETH

12.15—HEALOUGH NOVICE H

Two miles.

023F21 Castle Inn (D) (R. W. Jo

21 Jupiter Boy (D) (T. F. R

0 J.R.B (G R. Owen), 6-1

034 Wily Trout (T. F. Rimell),

Incase II (Alfred Smith),

0040-00 Dusky Don (W. A. Stephen

Inyanga (J. N. Robinson)

24-2023 Guinness (A. W. Bacon),

0 Gaiety Moore (D. Machin)

0000 Vultyroe (W. D. Francis),

0F Signal Rocket (M. Kane),

4 Master Garter (N. Crump)

P0 Bladnoch Brig (G. Fennin

400002 Wages Day (A. Pickard),

0 Siver Churn (D. Smith),

P-P Lucky Flynn (W. Easterb

F-0 J.F.K. (D Smith), 5-11-8

0 Grand Commander (W. Ne

Stolen Kiss (—), 4-10-

040 Jack of Diamonds (F. Cliff

0 Chancer (W. Hall), 4-10-

P00 Cield (D Yeoman), 4-10-

Nubian (W. Hall), 4-10-12

0 The Spaniard (J. Oliver), 4-

Mont (J. Rose), 4-10-12 .

FF Guilder (J. Booth), 4-10-1

4 Wife's Choice (D. Smith),

0422 Highfield Boy (L. Shedden)

San Tex (G. Vergette), 4-10

BETTING FORECAST: 9-4 agst.

Castle Inn; 6-1 Wife's Choice at

8-1 Wily Trout; 10-1 J.R.B. an

100-7 Guinness; 20-1 others.

12.45—WIKI HANDICAP 'CHAS

NEW NETLEY HOSPITAL STAYS OPEN

ALTHOUGH the 109-year-old Royal Victoria Military Hospital at Netley is to be demolished, the hospital in newer buildings within the same grounds is to be kept going.

A spokesman for the Aldershot District of the Army said today: "It should be made clear that it is only the old building which will come down because it is unsafe.

"But the hospital as such, in the same position as it has been for the last ten years, will continue to operate in the buildings behind the old hospital. It is a two-services hospital, serving the Army and the Royal Navy."

The hospital, which will continue to be known as the Royal Victoria Military Hospital, specialises in psychiatric cases, but takes normal cases in an emergency.

It is staffed by military and civilian personnel.

Local authorities are hoping to take over the site of the old hospital and the waterfront, probably for use by the general public.

member of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers, and a Fellow of the Institute of Shipping and Forwarding Agents.

He is hon. secretary and treasurer of the Southampton and district branch, Institute of Shipping and Forwarding Agents.

Sea Ministry charge

WITH the approval of the Archbishop of Canterbury, responsibility for ministering to travellers on the high seas is to be handed over by the SPCK to the Missions to Seamen.

In recent years more than two-thirds of the SPCK port work has been at Southampton, where, in an average year, the full-time port chaplain, the Rev. G. C. Rose, sees off over 300 ships and about 150 voyage chaplains.

In addition he issues as many as 16,000 commendations of travellers to the churches of their destinations.

Other SPCK port chaplains are stationed at London, Tilbury and Liverpool.

Scheme started by Mr. Gladstone

THE SPCK's ministry at the ports is well over 100 years old. It grew out of a scheme to provide religious books and tracts for intending settlers, launched by Mr. W. E. Gladstone as a young MP.

Admirable spot

It is no secret that Southampton has its eye on the old Netley Hospital site, an admirable spot for development as a green and open space and a sailing and small boat centre. And there is a fourth area before one gets to the Hamble River.

Once these spots are approved and turned into public open space the nagging thought of big industrial development on this eastern stretch of Southampton Water goes.

There is room for both, because the western bank must be largely written off now for amenity value.

Important area

A FOUR-DAY course in electronics for Army, Navy and RAF personnel was provided at the university last week.

Thirty uniformed and civilian officers concerned with the practical application of electronic devices in their work attended the residential course, which was one of a series put on at the university in the last few years to keep members of the Services in touch with scientific and technological developments.

Lecturers were Professor G. D.

Start the

RVH Netley Appeal Fund

FIRST of all may I thank Mr. Seekings-Foster for his most heartening letter in Monday's "Echo." I am sure he and many others will be pleased to hear that the RVH Appeal Fund is meeting with very encouraging support from all parts of the country.

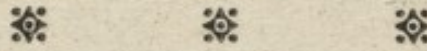
Will all those who would like to contribute towards this fund please write to Mrs. D. Parkes, Hon. Treasurer, "Wodensburg," Weston-lane, Woolston, Southampton?

I think you will find that most people (unlike "Netley Abbey Resident") are far more interested in restoring this wonderful building back to its rightful use and purpose—rather than solving a minority's golfing problems, etc.

We, the local general public already enjoy the major part of the foreshore, also parklands adjoining Netley Castle.

Therefore our main aim is to preserve Netley Hospital and its glorious grounds for the sick and wounded of this age whose need, after all, is far greater than those of us who enjoy good physical and mental health. — ANNE NEAL (Penshurst, 9, Abbey Hill, Netley Abbey, Southampton).

Mr. Molyneux hopes that building will begin to take shape in the spring.



ON to the smooth lawns of West Cliff Hall Hotel, Hy this week, a helicopter made comfortable landing. The pilot shut off the engine, got out, walked the few yards to the house where he put up for the night. The procedure was no more complicated than that of parking a car, and could well be the pattern of travel for the top commercial traveller of the future.

The helicopter pilot, Mr. Charles James of Oxford, a 28-year-old professional pilot employed by British Executive Air Services, told me that to land in rural and semi-rural parts of England by helicopter all you have to do is select a suitable lawn or meadow then get the permission of the

this
beer
four-
who
azed
nted
s, at
the
lock
the

o a
8,000
ould
egan
arge

nded
th a
llage
iting
eping

ade a

y



RVH Netley

INSTEAD of demolishing all or some part, I would suggest that Netley Hospital be put into use as a maternity unit or an elderly persons home.

I know the outlay of the building is back to front, e.g., the wards of some I know face a rather dismal looking scene at the back, but, as the corridors are very wide and catch the western sun, surely it would be ideal for elderly people to sit outside of their wards in comfortable chairs, and watch "life on the ocean waves" steamers coming and going.

There have been thousands of ratepayers money spent on extensions to homes, surely money, perhaps thousands, could be spent on restoring Netley Hospital, as the foundations, I dare say, are strong? Have a golf course and let the elderly enjoy watching the youngsters play.—(Mrs.) **DONALD GOULD** (119, Shirley-road, Southampton).

Don't close it plea

May I endorse Mrs. Anne Neal's excellent letter about Netley Hospital.

Certainly it seems ludicrous in these modern times to close hospitals of all things, when accidents occur so frequently.

Also its beauty alone deserves preservation. Beauty, a thing so rare nowadays! — **HIRAM L. SPENCER** (The Chalet, Hill Coppice, Titchfield).



y
t
y

Diamon

Miss M

best f

A PERSONALITY story comes this week from Somborne Park, near Stockbridge, and it is one that should surely warm the hearts of all those who sigh for the almost lost beauty of gracious living and beautiful things.

Everyone who has seen this magnificent picture of the engraved goblet and glass has expressed more than a passing interest. It looks for all the world as though it should belong to an historic collection—created by an artist of a bygone age.



Part of Netley hospital still stands. In the foreground, a tangle of old pipes and debris.—"Echo" photo.

Hospital rubble aids Southampton's future

"ECHO" STAFF REPORTER

THE 1,200-bed Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley is going . . . going . . . but still far from gone.

About 300 yards of its quarter-mile-long structure has now crumbled to the demolition hammer since work began last September.

Mr. Brian Day, agent for Southern Sand and Ballast who are handling the sale of the hard-core, said yesterday: "When demolition first started it was thought the whole job would take about 18 months, but it now looks as if it will be sooner. We have been flooded out with orders for the hard-core."

Much of the hard-core is helping to secure Southampton's future in the Docks extension scheme, and many of the blocks of Portland stone and Welsh granite are being used for sea defence work at Milford-on-Sea. But the biggest order so far is the supply of hard-core to the marshland at Totton.

There it is being used for service roads to new electricity pylons.

NOT SEEN GHOST

Since demolition began Mr. Day has been on the site nearly every day. "I have not yet seen that Grey Lady ghost," he joked.

When he first came to the site, however, he did notice that a peregrine falcon used to use the hospital for roosting. "But all the noise seems to have frightened it away. Pity really; it is such a rare and beautiful bird."

Cup replay

Injuries make Saints delay team choice

By "OBSERVER"

THE Saints' team for tomorrow evening's Cup replay with Barrow at the Dell will not be settled until tomorrow. Injuries received on Saturday are complicating Manager Ted Bates' task.

Ron Davies had a nasty kick on the ankle just before the end of the game at Barrow but has, it was stated this morning, a fifty-fifty chance of playing. Further treatment today, it is hoped, will get him fit.

David Thompson and David Walker also had knocks, and so with three of the men who played on Saturday doubtful Mr. Bates is delaying selecting his side.

He said this morning that the team will be from the following



group: MacLaren, Webb, Jones, Hollywood, Wimhurst, Knapp, Walker, White, Huxford, Paine, Chivers, Davies, Melia, Thompson, Sydenham, Dean.

BARROW UNCHANGED
Barrow will be unchanged. Manager Don McEvoy has decided not to alter his side and this means that wing-half Mick Hartland continues to wear the No. 11 shirt.

The side will be: Else, Mallon, Edwards, Smith, Arrowsmith, Harrison, McCarthy, Field, McAdams, Mulholland, Hartland. Substitute: Pilkington.

The party started their journey by coach at 9 am today and hope to have a final work-out at the Oxford United ground tomorrow morning.

The winners tomorrow night will be away in the fourth round to Halifax or Bristol City, who drew 1-1 at Halifax on Saturday and replay at Ashton Gate, Bristol, tonight.

Soton Boy at Swansea

NOT all local Cup-tie interest will be for Southampton Boys carry trophy of the English Schools' Trophy at Field.

Southampton make two changes from the team which defeated the Isle of Wight earlier this month, and new wingers are introduced. Colin Hayward, who has done well in practice games—and who came on as substitute in the Island match—will be on the left wing. At outside-right, Michael Attwood replaces the injured Roger Penn.

To reach this stage, Southampton, who had a bye in the first round, have beaten Eastleigh 4-0 after a 1-1 draw, Poole 3-0, Mid-Oxon 4-1 and Isle of Wight 3-0.

The Southampton team is: Fleet (Wildern); Godden (Millbrook); Holtman (Taunton's); Lane (Moorhill); Bennett (Taunton's); Elliott (Millbrook); Attwood (Taunton's); Collins (Ichen); Adams (St. Mary's College); Ebert (Ichen); Hayward (Millbrook).

Travelling as reserves will be: Russell (Hampton Park); Penn (Glen Eyre); Harvey (Belemoor); and Cox (Taunton's).

Swansea, four times winners of

Gosport are not dismayed

MR. STAN CRIBB, Gosport's team manager, was disappointed but not dismayed with the draw for the third round of the Amateur Cup which takes Gosport away to Isthmian League club Kingstonian on February 11.

This is the second successive draw which has taken Gosport away from home.

"Our fine 5-1 away win at Consett in north west Durham gives us cause for confidence," said Mr. Cribb.

"Having beaten Consett, and knowing how well they played, I am not exceptionally worried about Kingstonian. Consett were easily the best side we had met, and although we realise each cup match is getting harder, after Saturday's victory there is no knowing what our lads can achieve."

"And I am sure we will have plenty of support at Kingstonian." Gosport will be meeting a fairly successful cup-fighting team. In 1960 Kingstonian reached the final of the Amateur Cup.

DELL COMPETITION WINNERS

DELL Supporters—Monday, £40
—Mrs. R. Clewer (Andover), £20
—Mrs. J. Clewer (Andover), £20

HOCKEY

TROJANS THEIR OWN STAND

WITH all of last Saturday's progress time to look back over the season. Section can view 1966 with mixed feelings.

Taken over all the results make good reading; of a total of 81 games played at all levels, 45 have been won, 13 drawn, and 23 lost.

But when compared with previous seasons, and judged by the high standards Trojans set themselves, this is not as good as many would have liked. Two basic facts emerge as reasons; firstly the club is undergoing a change at the higher levels.

M. Ralph has moved from the 1st XI to captain the 2nd XI and I. Clarke has done the same for the 3rd XI; this was done so that they could lend their skill and experience to the lower teams.

Together with this a great deal of experimenting has been done so that younger players could gain experience from high-level hockey; the benefits of this policy will no doubt be felt in years to come, though not necessarily in this one. Secondly for reasons that are unavoidable the lower XIs have rarely been able to field the same quality of players as the 1st XI.

It's D-for-demolition day at Netley Hospital

"Echo" Staff Reporter
DEMOLITION was officially starting today of the biggest white elephant in the history of hospital building. The Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, condemned by Florence Nightingale before it even opened in 1863, is at last coming down.

It is one of the largest demolition jobs ever, and it is being undertaken by a Southampton firm—William Perry's Demolition and Plant Hire, Ltd.—in conjunction with Southern Sand and Ballast, Ltd.

Within 18 months virtually nothing will remain of the quarter-of-a-mile long building which boasted 138 wards in which there were once 1,065 beds.

The brickwork will be used as foundations for roads, dock extensions, and other construction work. All metal work will be sent off to foundries to be melted down again, and most of the slates and the best sections of their timber will eventually find their way to new buildings under construction.

Valuable

Every attempt will also be made to salvage the valuable Portland stone and Welsh granite that was used for the hospital's decorative stonework.

The Portland stone is reported to be of a perfect texture which cannot be quarried these days.

The building stands majestically in 227 acres on the eastern side of Southampton Water, and has been a well-known landmark for thousands who have sailed from Southampton.

When the hospital's foundation stone was laid by Queen Victoria in 1856 it was claimed to be the largest military hospital in the world.

It has a centre block surmounted by a dome, and two wings all three storeys high.

The corridors, which run the full length of the building, are reputed to be the longest in the world.

Plans of the hospital were bitterly criticised by Florence Nightingale, fresh back from the Crimea, on the grounds that the wards faced north-east and were poorly ventilated.

But her attempts to have the building stopped were unsuccessful.

Wounded from every theatre of war in which Britain has been engaged since Crimea have been tended at Netley. During the war the hospital was also used by the U.S. Army.

Neglect

Since 1958 the main building has stood empty and has rapidly deteriorated through neglect and disrepair, further aggravated by a

serious fire in the centre block in 1963.

The hospital site will eventually be developed as a recreational open space for the public.

To mark the start of demolition the contractors were today having a special "Open Day" on the site, to which had been invited the Press, television, and people associated with the old hospital.



Recent photograph of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley. The chain link fencing in the foreground, put there by the demolition contractors, circles virtually the whole of the building and is said to be nearly a mile long.—Photo: H. G. Armitage, Southampton.



Watched by a gallery of invited guests, the first chimney takes a ceremonial tumble.—"Echo" photo.

ROUND THE PORT

Lighting up time: Tonight, 7.49 am to 6.13 am; tomorrow, 7.47 am to 6.14 am.

High water at Southampton: Tomorrow, 12.56 am and 1.24 pm.

Secondary tides two hours later.

INSPECTOR GORDON BROWN, well known throughout the port as head of the New Scotland Yard special branch unit at Southampton docks, has retired after a police career of almost 40 years.

He was appointed to Southampton in 1948, and has served in the port ever since. Inspector Brown's home is at Botley-road, Burridge.

His successor as head of the unit is Detective-Sgt. Eric John Carr, who was appointed to Southampton Docks in 1962.

Sgt. Carr, whose home is at Bellemoor-road, Shirley, Southampton, is a Londoner. He started his police career at Fulham in 1937, and joined the special branch of New Scotland Yard just before the war.

During the war he dealt mainly with security matters.

anchor, has been developed by Danforth Jackson and Co. of Droxford, following extensive tank tests and sea trials.

Pulling tests carried out by the Southampton University School of Navigation, Warsash, gave an efficiency of 15.2, compared with 4.4 for a normal stockless anchor.

The anchor, invented by Cmdr. E. H. G. Stokes, was stated by the firm to have achieved the three main requirements for efficiency—holding power, snug hawse pipe stowage, and economy of construction.

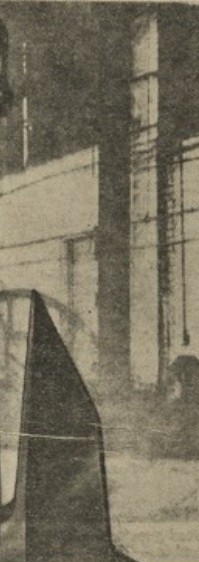


By Our SHIPPING REPORTER

Cost of seamen's strike

P & O-Orient Lines estimate that the seamen's strike will cost the group about £1.4 million.

A very large part of this cost will fall on the passenger ships, which were already the hardest hit by the 1968 increases in seamen's pay," said a company official.



WHERE THE SHIPS ARE— Dock, river and ocean movements

TODAY'S ARRIVALS

ELK (BR), am. 22
ORIOLE (GSM), am. 9
VIKING III (Thor), Havre, 07.00, 7.
BESS (Wall), Rouen, 08.50, 49
UNITED STATES (US), Bremerhaven, 09.50, 107
AMENITY, am. 102-3
VIKING II (Thor), Cherbourg, 14.30, 7
FRANCONIA (Cun), Montreal, 16.30, 434
VIKING I (Thor), Havre, 19.30, 7
FAIRSKY (US), portside to quay, Sydney, 21.00, 28-8
VIKING III (Thor), Cherbourg, 22.00, 7

TODAY'S SAILINGS

VIKING III (Thor), Cherbourg, 10.30, 7
PORT ROYAL, 11.00, 26
QUEEN MARY (Cun), New York, 12.15, 43-4
GOOD HOPE CASTLE (UC), Cape Town, 12.45, 104
CAPE TOWN CASTLE (UC), Cape Town, 12.50, 25-9
UNITED STATES (US), New York, 13.00, 107
QUEEN VICTORY, 14.00, 40-1
BESS (Wall), Rouen, 15.00, 49
VIKING II (Thor), Havre, 19.30, 7
FRANCONIA, Rotterdam, 19.30, 48-4
ELK (BR), 21.45, 22
VIKING I (Thor), Cherbourg, 21.00, 7
VIKING III (Thor), Havre, 22.00, 7

Tomorrow's arrivals: Moose (BR), am. 21; Aurelia (Coc), New York, 07.00, 45-1; Viking II (Thor), Havre, 07.00, 7; Fort Dauphin, am. 26-7; Sunward Voyager, Gibraltar, 10.45, 49; Viking I (Thor), Cherbourg, 14.30, 7; Viking III (Thor), Havre, 19.30, 7; Viking II (Thor), Cherbourg, 22.00, 7; Arnhem, pm. 22.

Tomorrow's sailings: Aurelia, Rotterdam, 09.00, 45-1; Viking II (Thor), Cherbourg, 10.30, 7; Canberra (P & O-O), Sydney, 15.00, 100-8; Viking I (Thor), Havre, 19.30, 7; Sunward Voyager, Gibraltar, 20.00, 49; Viking II (Thor), Havre, 22.00, 7.

POSITION OF SHIPS AT 4 PM TODAY:

EASTERN DOCKS

Berth
2—Oriole (GSM).
22—Elk (BR).
23—Sand Skipper.
24—Twyford.
25—S.A. Oriole (Saf).
45—John B Waterman.
45—FC No 1.
59—HMCS Isis, HMS Warsash, HMS Venturer, HMS Canhampton.

COSTS OF ROYAL VISITS

EASTLEIGH'S two Royal visits this year cost £25,989, equivalent to approximately a 1,03d rate, it was reported at a meeting of Eastleigh Borough Council General Purposes Committee.

A considerable proportion of the expenditure was incurred in maintenance and improvement works which would have been carried out in any case, stated the Borough Treasurer, Mr. H. G. S. Dyer.

He said in his report that the expenditure incurred by the visit of Princess Margaret on June 1 totalled £4,745, but of this, £2,022 was for the decoration of the Town Hall, £1,213 for the modernisation of toilets and £189 for the replacement of a bus shelter in Nightingale-avenue. The civic lunch cost £739.

Total cost of the visit of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on July 13, was £2,226. This sum

WESTERN DOCKS

102-3—Ely Danvers
105-4—Canberra (P & O-O).
109—Eldon.

DRY-DOCKS

6—Southern Cross (Ghaw).

TOWN QUAY

Today's arrivals: Crop, M. Needles, Shalmet, Riverdale, Barge; Northway, Miterdale.

Today's sailings: Crop, M. Needles, Shalmet, Riverdale, Barge; Cubic, Organic, Kurt Bastia.

These details are compiled from data provided with the assistance of Port and Dock Authorities and shipping companies. In some cases the details are provisional and neither the "Echo" nor those who supply the information are held themselves responsible for alterations.

SOTON WEATHER

Readings taken at 9 am GMT today by the Southampton Weather Centre, High-street:

Barometer: 8 pm yesterday 30.00 inches; 9 am today, 30.4 inches; rising.

Temperatures since 9 am yesterday: Maximum, 19.9 degrees C (67.9 degrees F); minimum, 6.3 (43.3); grass minimum, 5 (37.6).

Rainfall since 9 am yesterday nil; yesterday's sunshine, 9 hours; wind at 9 am today, NV (light), three knots.

ATTENTION STRAWBERRY

DARBY of METHWEN

Telephone
Have now established Hampshire to distribution of strawberry plants
Please write for details of the classification of varieties

Avon Motors

1966 FORD Corsair de luxe 8 upholstery Cost new £25
1962 FORD Zephyr 6 Mk. 1 blue upholstery
1958 FORD Prefect de luxe engine, black/red upholstery
1964 5 HILLMAN Minx de luxe blue upholstery

Unleashed dogs banned

RVH Netley

IN reply to your correspondent, Mrs. J. R. Sexton, she has pinpointed the actual conditions during the First World War.

I cannot add to her statement, only to say that I myself was a patient in this "workhouse," we used stronger, unprintable language, but having gone forward to better times let us "Thank God" for our preservation.

I would respectfully remind many of your correspondents who I have not the slightest doubt meant well in what they thought appropriate for this building, and adjoining land, that the decision of the Ministry of Works to pull it down was right. We must never allow sentiment to take the place of reason.

I can honestly inform your readers that the said authority would have preserved it had it been in the national interest. Having worked for this Ministry I know and fully appreciate the magnificent work which they have accomplished in and around the city of Southampton. — **S. E. SMITH** (242, Priory-road, St. Denys, Southampton).



FROM my promotion exam days, I can remember learning that every military paper should finish with a conclusion. I can think of three:

Firstly, the Warminster thing can have no connection with the "Military," though the Army scientists, if they've ever heard of it, probably wish it had!

Secondly, in my opinion, there is no such thing.

Finally, being a little more gracious perhaps, I am bound to agree with Shakespeare when he wrote:

*"There are more things in
heaven and earth, Horatio,
Than are dreamt of in your
philosophy."*

CHAIN FOR DALLION

RVH in the Crimean War

READERS may be interested to know that the bricks for the R.V.H. Hospital were made from clay dug on the site. My grandfather, about 18 at the time, worked in one of the brickmaking gangs. Seven in a gang.

Whatever else the place was, it certainly cured some of the soldiers. The old chap, who at the time lived near the "Dolphin," a pub at Bursledon, said they used to come there weekends. The landlord had a large half-barrel of water outside in the road.

They would go in, have a few, then come out, strip off, wrap their belts around their fists, and have a real good set to; blood streaming everywhere. The water was for sluicing them.

These were Crimean War men. In the end the place was declared "out of bounds."

How is the sum for demolition arrived at? It can't cost the authorities anything. If it is to be knocked down the building will be put up for sale as a shell, and put to tender to the demolition contractors. When one thinks of the colossal amounts of rubble, the lead and that copper sheathed dome, the tendering estimates will run into thousands.

In a display tent on the Common the Ordnance Survey had a replica of a 150-year-old local map, No. XI. This was before the hospital and I noticed that Coach-road, Hamble, and Victoria-road, Netley, was one road, no breaks in it. The traffic problem in Hamble-lane would be eased if this road was reinstated.—"**BURSLEDONIAN**" (Name and address supplied to Editor).

Another suggestion

Having read all the articles on the Netley Hospital project, I would suggest a convalescence-cum-industrial rehabilitation centre.

Many principal towns in the North of England seem to have them, but, with the enormous and growing population in the South, we have but two (not including the London centres).

Surely this would help immensely with the difficulties and time problems of the many disabled, and partially disabled, persons in Southampton and surrounding districts.

I'm a specialist in this subject being disabled by the Ministry of Labour standards and yet not by the Ministry of Pensions!—**BRENDA ALLEN** (103, Laundry-road, Shirley Warren, Southampton).

d
en

Wright Rain has grown to be one of the world's
of irrigation equipment, with five associate com-
broad and a distribution network which serves

ly outgrown two factories, and its bright, modern
Ringwood are now being extended yet again.
going places — and there are plenty of oppor-
ed people to go too!

Office Manager for application form

od Hampshire 'Phone Ringwood 2251



enthusiastic and intelligent
interested in

CAREERS

or specialising in the Buying
Accounts Departments.

essential. Age group 16—20.

ing to the Staff Director,

W & S, LTD.,

ary's Road, Southampton.

Hand Typist

ood opportunity and top pay.

Secretary,

W (Engineers) LTD.

ling, Southampton

ampton 29191.

AIRCRAFT LTD.

require a

ENGINEER

HAMPTON AREA

d experience on Helicopters.

ries please contact:

l Manager.

ION DIVISION

Middlesex Tel. Hayes 2800

acres of land for a few; make them into a sports arena and you will have land for lots.

Take our village. We have two recreation grounds and eight football teams some of whom have to manage with ground outside the village. We have no running track other than the Sports Centre, which is by no means suitable for young lads and girls to train.

So why not make Netley RVH into a super sports arena with running track, cycling track, tennis courts, swimming pool, football and cricket pitches. These are a few of the many sports that can be catered for in these very large grounds.—**E. B. CHAMBERS**
(Hon. Secretary, Netley Youth Club) (12, Denzil-avenue, Netley Abbey).

GETS

HIS many friends will learn that Mr. Willis, of Shelley-road, Eastleigh's Scout Gang Show Commissioner (GP) since 1961, has been awarded the Medal of Merit.

It was in 1959 that he was asked to produce the first Ralph Reader Gang Show in Eastleigh, with shows in 1961, 1963 and 1965, and a musical play in 1964. Those productions were of a high standard and were very popular, and last year the local Gang became the first in Hampshire to gain the coveted Gang Show badge.

Mr. Willis joined the 4th Eastleigh (Church) Cub pack in October, following to the

Build modern hospital

YOUR correspondent Miss Dear (and others) have my approval in suggesting a modern hospital in place of the old Netley building, where spaciousness and quiet is so desirable.

I am not sure whether Florence Nightingale was associated with Netley, though I am sure that she played a major role in the early days of military hospitals and her good name would grace any such institution.—**O. M. PEARCE** (33, Orchards-way, Highfield, Southampton).

DESIGN WINS

TWO earthquake - resistant bridges to be built at a cost of £1,250,000 in San Diego, Chile, will be to the design of a Southampton firm of consulting engineers.

Against world-wide competition, E. W. H. Gifford and Partners won the design contract for a one-mile long steel and concrete bridge, and for a 1,200-foot prestressed concrete bridge.

E, BASSETT

Bassett Wood Estate, convenient
a University

◆ Tom Bargate's **TOPICS OF THE HOUR** ◆

As the great hospital starts its fall



The Victoria Cross.

They wait for what lies down below

AS DEMOLITION WORKMEN smash their way through the sturdy walls of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley their progress will be closely watched by those interested in the history of medals.

For under the foundation stone, laid by Queen Victoria in May, 1856, may be found the original Victoria Cross. It is believed by some that the cross is inside a copper casket, along with the original drawings of the buildings and gold coins of the Realm.

The Victoria Cross award was created by Royal Warrant four months prior to the foundation laying ceremony. It is thought that the one beneath the stone is the prototype.

But though demolition officially began yesterday, those interested in the stone's secret will have to curb their impatience for a little while. It will be at least a year and probably 18 months before the demolition hammer nears the stone, which is in the wall of the central block.

Whatever is found underneath the stone will become the property of the Army, and will probably find a resting place in a museum.

There is, however, another historical link between the Victoria Cross and the hospital of which there is no doubt. It was there, in the twilight of her years, that Queen Victoria made her last personal presentations of the cross.

It is said that she visited the hospital to decorate with the coveted medal of valour two wounded soldiers.

Yesterday at the hospital, the talk was mainly about more recent associations with the building.

Col. Desmond Murphy, who commands the newer combined Army and Royal Navy hospital nearby, told me: "I feel very sad. The Royal Victoria was the first post I had in the Army, 27 years ago. Some of the best work in the Royal Army Medical Corps was done in the old place, and some famous men did their research there."

"It was the principal Army hospital for invalids from overseas' commands, particularly India."

He added that he was pleased the empty building recently ceased to be his responsibility. "There were too many adventurous gangs of teenagers rearing inside the place at weekends."

Also full of nostalgia were Lieut. Col. M. A. Thompson, matron of the nearby hospital, and her assistant, Major M. H. Rundle—both of whom wore those splendid grey and red uniforms of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Maj. Rundle, who joined the QAs in 1942, served on hospital ships that came into Southampton. "As we came up Southampton Water the Royal Victoria was always eagerly looked for," she said. "The first bit of the hospital we saw was the big iron cross on the dome."

Even the man in charge of demolition, Mr. Bill Perry, had room for sentiment. "When you walk through the corridors and start thinking of the number of wounded soldiers who have been cared for in the place it does something to you."

A colleague of Mr. Perry's Mr. John Day, who had been demolishing buildings for 20 years, looked at the majestic lines of the old place and confided: "You know, I still feel a vandal when I knock down a building."

But business and sentiment don't mix, and Mr. Perry and his men have a job to do—a job

of magnitude they are not likely ever to encounter again.

One structure that will not fall to the demolition hammer will be the Royal Chapel, attached to the hospital's central tower section. The chapel contains many memorials to Royal Army Medical Corps officers who helped nurse the British "Tommy" since the Crimean War.

"The Army have asked that the chapel be retained, but we are not yet sure to what use the chapel will be put," a Ministry of Works spokesman tells me.

Also to be rescued by the Army are: two weather-vanes, a Royal Coat of Arms in stone, a pair of wrought-iron gates with the Royal Coat of Arms, bells from the clock-tower, some sculptured heads on the front of the building, a cross from the tower, and the foundation stone laid by Queen Victoria in May, 1856.

Three souvenirs of the old place have not yet been claimed by anybody...two ghosts of Crimean soldiers and one of a Crimean nurse have been walking the corridors for years.



Somewhere down there, under massive blocks of granite, is the foundation stone. What will they find beneath it?—"Echo" photo.

A thirty minute leer with Leslie

IMAGINE a very, very small "Carry-on..." film. This may make you feel very grateful, and with some justification, though I can't promise it will ever happen.

The new BBC-1 comedy series "Foreign Affairs" last night is like those films. Half a minute over the half-hour and you would be ready to give in, even laugh—in sheer self-defence.

With no fewer than three hard-working writers dredging up the quick gags and discarding them for leering innuendos, this comedy is left with only the smallest amount of time for what is ostensibly its main purpose—a send-up of British diplomacy and cold-war dealings with the Russians.

Leslie Phillips was... Leslie Phillips, rather than the character Dennis Proudfoot, a key civil servant.

There was also an outlandish Russian sailor (Dick Graham) wanting to defect to the West and seeking "political madhouse." With rumbustious foreignness he played the old game of getting muddled about the English language.

For the rest I offer you specimen dialogue.

Secretary (worried about his overworking) to Mr. Phillips (who is planning his evening with a girl)... "Carry on like this, sir, and you are liable to end up in bed."

Russian embassy official (cheated on an evening playing chess) to Mr. Phillips (cheated on an evening with the girl)... "I had lovely moves worked out. I would have been sure to mate."

And more. And more. Ho hum.

IF The Corridor People on Southern hasn't been getting all the praise it deserves then probably it is because it is not so much sick as visceral.

As time goes on it plays its satire more and more of the top of his head. Last night there was a jibe or two at black and white racial prejudice and a lot of modern sarcasm.

Sex here is not a smutty joke. It

6.5, Songs of Praise.
7.25, Anastasia (British film, 1956).
9.5, Billy Cotton's Music-Hall.
9.50, News.
10, Francis Bacon.
10.45, Meeting Point.
11.15, Weather.

BBC TV-2

TODAY
2.30-3.30, Battle of Britain Display. 7.30, Plunder.
8, A World of Song. 8.30, This Man Craig. 9.20, The Angry Voices of Watts. 10.10, Ransom For A Pretty Girl. Part 2. 10.35, News.
10.40, Late Night Line-Up.
11, Midnight Movie.

TOMORROW
7, News Review for the Deaf. 7.25, I Was a Ninety-pound Weakling. 7.55, Tonight In Person: Tom Paxton. 8.25, Life... in the animal world.
9.5, Theatre 625. 10.35, News.
10.40, Late Night Line-Up.

SOUTHERN ITV

TODAY
2.15, World of Sport.
5.15, Huckleberry Hound.
5.40, ITN News. 5.45, Opportunity Knocks. 6.35, Batman. 7.5, The Big Valley.
8, Mike and Bernie's Show. 8.30, The Rifleman.
9, ITN News. 9.10, Peyton Place. 10.5, Armchair Theatre.

Vision and Voice

LONDON ITV

TODAY

2.15, World of Sport. 5.15, Adventures of Robin Hood. 5.40, News. 5.50, Weavers Green. 6.15, Stagecoach West.
7.10, To Paris With Love (British comedy, 1955). 8.35, Mike and Bernie's Show.
9.10, Sergeant Cork. 10.5, News. 10.15, Armchair Theatre.
11.15, Take A Cool Look. 11.45, A Date With... Janie Marden; Weather. 12, Epilogue.

TOMORROW

11, Harvest Thanksgiving.
12.15, See It On Sunday. 12.35-1.5, You and Your Library. 2.10, News. 2.15, The Exercise of Power. 2.40, Police Five. 2.50, Star Soccer. 3.35, Man of the World. 4.35, Danger Man. 5.30, The Forest Rangers.
6, News. 6.15, Tingha and Tucker. 6.35, Hallelujah. 6.55, East of Canterbury. 7.25, The Rifleman.
7.55, The Angry Hills (American film, 1958).
9.55, News. 10.5, The Bruce Forsyth Show. 11.5, The Human Jungle. Weather. 12, Epilogue.

Radio News On Sound

ON the eve of leaving for America for the Broadway opening of the play, "The Killing of Sister George," Beryl Reid can be heard in the first of two Saturday evening programmes tonight.

She invites Light Programme listeners to "Be My Guest." In party mood, and climbing in and out of some of her familiar comedy characterisations—among them the gushing "Brum" teenager Marlene—she introduces artists featured in her favourite recordings—Billy Bennett, Stubby K...

10.55, Lighten Our Darkness.
11.10, Music At Night. 11.42, Weather Forecast and News Summary.

TOMORROW

7.50 am, Sunday Reading. 7.55, Weather and Programme News.
8, The News. 8.10, As Prescribed. 8.40, Sunday Papers. 8.50, Programme News. 8.55, Weather and Programme News.
9, The News. 9.5, Morning Song. 9.30, The Archers.
10.30, Morning Service.
11.15, Pick of the Week.
12.10, The Critics. 12.55, Weather and Programme News.
1, The News. 1.10, Any Questions?
2, Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30, The Sunday Play. My Son, My Son.
3.30, The Archaeologist.
4, Can I Help You? 4.15, Nature Parliament. 4.45, Down Your Way.
5.30, Sunday Sport. 5.55, Weather and Programme News.
6, The News followed by Radio Newsreel. 6.45, Letter From America.
7, Grand Hotel. 7.55, Week's Good Cause.
8, One Man's Tribute. 8.30, Quo Vadis?
9.30, Gyorgy Czifra.
10, The News and Weather Forecast. 10.10, Against The Tide. 10.50, The Epilogue. 10.59, Weather Forecast.
11, News Summary. 11.2, Music At Night.

LONDON HOME

TODAY

6.10-6.15, South-East News.
TOMORROW
8.10-8.40 am, Programme for listeners from India and Pakistan.

THIRD NETWORK

TODAY

6, Arne: Harpsichord Concerto No. 5 in G minor. 6.15, A Lesson From The Master. 7.15, La Dame Blanche. 8.15, Personal View. 8.35, La Dame Blanche. Act 2. 9.45, The Novelist As Innovator. 10.15, La Dame Blanche. Act 3. 11, News.

TOMORROW

8 am, News; Weather. 8.4, What's New?
9, News; Weather. 9.4, Bach Cantatas.
10, Concert Choice. 11, Beethoven Piano Sonatas.
12, L'Alto Nell Imbarazzo.
1, Liszt. 2.15, Brahms and Strauss.
3, Abbey Dore Festival: Gabrieli, Mozart and Britten.
4, Festival Concert Hall, Part 2: Malcolm Arnold and Schubert.
5, Wolf. 6.10, Hamlet. 8.40, Beethoven and Bartok. 9.40, Hamlet. 11, News.

LUXEMBOURG

TODAY

7.30 pm, Swingin' Pops. 7.45, Mu's. 8, Peter Murray. 8.30, Dan



On BBC-1 tomorrow—the film "Anastasia," with Ingrid Bergman and Yul Brynner.

REDIFFUSION

TODAY

A—Home. B—Light. C—12.30-6 pm, Sports Service. 6-7.30 pm, Foreign Selections. 7.30 pm-3 am, Radio Luxembourg. D—BBC 2. E—BBC 1. F—Southern TV.

TOMORROW

A—Home. B—Light. C—8 am-5 pm, Music Programme. 5-7 pm, Foreign Selection. 7 pm-3 am, Radio Luxembourg. D—BBC 2. E—BBC 1. F—Southern TV.

HOSPITALS

Here are the names of Southampton hospitals' patients for whom a record request will be played tomorrow:

Your Sunday Requests (D.J. Gay Garrett): Royal South Hanpts: Mrs. L. Richards, Mr. T. Barber, Mr. T. Byrne, Mr. R. Cornelius. General: Mrs. M. Belsworth, Mrs. I. Preston, Mrs. J. P. Dummer, Mr. G. Barber, Mr. E. Taylor, Mrs. Page, Miss I. Ames, Mrs. G. Colbourne, Mrs. C. Sivakumaran, Mrs. Hayman, Miss P. Whitehead. Chest: Mrs. O. Tranah. Fred Woolley: Mr. A. Phillips, Mr. T. Lee. 8-8.30, Church in Southampton: St. James' Methodist. 8.30-9, Sunday Choice, with J. Barnes.
Programmes on Monday: 8, Johnny Dymond At Large. 8.30, My Favourite Things, with Mary Wood and Dennis Dexter visiting the General Hospital. 9, The Epilogue—Rev. G. H. Yates.

Two-pronged

Civil Rights workers in Chicago today start a two-pronged campaign designed to improve Negro wages in Chicago's major department stores and make more jobs in the stores open to them. It is part of Dr. Martin Luther King's campaign to end racial discrimination in Chicago.—Reuter.

Five cases of shopbreaking in one night

A 19-YEAR-OLD youth, who admitted that, in one night, he climbed through the skylights and windows of five Winchester shops, appeared before Winchester magistrates, yesterday, charged with shopbreaking.

William Kearns, of King-street, Ramsgate, pleaded "Gulky" to breaking into Woolworth's store with another man and stealing goods, including clothes and 57 watches, valued at £262 Ms. 11d. He asked to have taken into consideration offences of breaking into Liptons, where he stole 1s. 6d.; Mac Fisheries, where he stole 1s insurance cards; Bust and Son Ltd, and Dewhursts—all in Winchester High-street—and of breaking into Princess, builders, Chapel-road, Southampton, with intent to steal.

Kearns told the police that he and the other man, whom he had met in a Southampton hostel, registered in a Winchester hotel. In the evening they went out drinking and afterwards committed the various break-ins.

They stayed the night in the hotel and next morning returned to Southampton, hired a car and drove to Ramsgate. Kearns said he went to London and sold some of the goods stolen from Woolworth's.

Insp. F. N. Millard said £27 17s. worth of property had been recovered. Kearns, who had been working as a labourer in Southampton, had previous convictions for unlawful wounding, shopbreaking, larceny and rape.

The magistrates remanded Kearns in custody for sentence at the Winchester Quarter Sessions.

R. & K. MARTIN Ltd.
PLUMBING and HEATING ENGINEERS
HOME HEATING PAKS
SOLID FUEL GAS OIL

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE FOUGHT AGAINST WHITE ELEPHANT AT NETLEY



Florence Nightingale

ONE hundred and ten years ago the foundation stone of England's first military hospital was laid with due ceremony upon the shore of Southampton Water at Netley; it was Queen Victoria's first official engagement since the ending of the Crimean War, and was to be one of Florence Nightingale's biggest disappointments.

A short time previously, Miss Nightingale had returned from the Crimea where she had witnessed the unspeakable conditions in which the wounded soldiers of the British Army had died of sickness and disease, as a result of what she considered to have been maladministration and appalling sanitation.

Throughout the snowbound winter of 1854, a steady stream of cholera victims had poured down upon Balaklava and boarded the transports lying in the harbour, where the formerly clean waters had already become a festering stew of dead horses and mangled limbs.

Major and Town Clerk of Southampton were among the civic dignitaries presented to the Royal party, and at the official ceremony which followed, the Bishop of Winchester pronounced a blessing upon the venture.

Even this initial act in the story of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley was not without disaster, for the laying of the foundation stone was marked by the firing of a salute from the gunboats, and on board the Hardy a gun went off prematurely, blowing two seamen to pieces and striking several others. Undeterred by this omen, the celebration of the occasion proceeded with much local rejoicing, according to contemporary

By
Margaret Green

accounts, and after the Queen's departure the civic party embarked upon a cruise in the Solent, where they dined aboard ship.

No doubt wishing to pacify the infuriated Miss Nightingale in her unflagging behind-the-scenes campaign to reorganise the Army medical department, Lord Palmerston sent her a copy of the plans of the new military hospital under construction at Netley.

He could hardly have more misdeed his opponent for not ordered Florence Nightingale thoroughly study them, but on the occasion of her next visit to her country home in Hampshire she took the opportunity of driving over from Exton Park and what she saw on the hospital site at Netley caused her the deepest concern.

Designed by the architect of the War Department, and built in the Italian style, the Royal Victoria Hospital consisted of a central block and two wings towering three storeys high, with endless corridors and a facade which stretched for a quarter of a mile. It was to accommodate 1,000 patients, and its cost was estimated at £200,000; there is little doubt that over the century it was to cost the War Office a vastly larger sum.

The wooden jolly for the disembarkation of soldiers lasted a mere eight years and was replaced by a 360 ft. long cast-iron screw-pier which landed hundreds of soldiers from the South African and two World Wars, serving as a promenade from which the convalescents could fish. In 1935 this had rotted away and War Office estimates for its renewal were so high that it was cheaper to demolish it.

Shortly before D Day, 1944, Netley Hospital was handed over to the American Army, who were reputed to have solved the problem of the long corridors by drying jumps along them. It was returned to the RAMC in 1948 and next figured in the news in 1948 when General Sir George Kraken, OOC-in-C Southern Command, was reported to have described the building as an economic "shocker" needing £50,000 to keep it essential and patched.

Behind the facade

SINCE 1935, the main building has lain empty and dilapidated. Three years ago a severe fire broke out in the main wing, sweeping through the heavily timbered interior to the 70 ft. high roof, while 25 firemen and 17 fire units fought to control the flames which might have made an end of the controversial building. Although no official discovery of the cause of the fire may well have been due to deterioration in the electrical wiring.



Wounded soldiers from the South African War and their visitors are seen on the pier that was in front of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley. The picture is in the collection of Mr. J. P. M. Pannell, MBE, formerly engineer to Southampton Harbour Board.

Faced with official indifference the vermin-ridden soldiers had perished in epidemic in the great rat-infested barrack hospital at Scutari which stood in the own lake of putrid infection on the shores of the Bosphorus, while Florence Nightingale and her band of nurses toiled on their daily round of four miles of hospital beds.

Nobody knew the needs of a military hospital better than she, and returning to England a popular heroine, she brushed aside personal publicity and honours, to carry on her campaign for better hospital conditions for British soldiers, and the reorganisation of the Army medical service.

Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were deeply impressed by Miss Nightingale's account of her experiences in the Crimea, and sympathised with her plans; as a result of negotiation with Lord Palmerston at the War Office, a Royal Warrant was issued appointing a commission to inquire into the sanitary conditions, administration, and organisation of barracks and military hospitals.

Chosen for the first

SHORTLY afterwards, the War Office chose a site of 100 acres on the east shore of Southampton Water for their first permanent military hospital. It was approximately 12 miles from Portsmouth and six miles from Southampton, where wounded soldiers might be conveniently disembarked from transport ships.

Escorted by a flotilla of gunboats, Queen Victoria's ship arrived in the Royal Yacht to lay the foundation stone of the hospital, which was to bear her name, and landed upon a wooden jolly specially constructed for the occasion and covered in scarlet cloth.

The Queen, accompanied by Lord Palmerston of the War Office, was welcomed ashore under a triumphal arch of evergreens surmounted by a crown. The

Imposing but not functional

It seemed that all her work had been for nothing, for here was a building already under way which bore no relation to the mass of statistical findings and recommendations with which she had so persistently bombarded the War Office.

Her shrewd intelligence quickly saw that Netley Hospital was likely to prove one of the biggest administrative blunders in medical history, for the plans were utterly unrelated to the function of the building, taking no account of the need for sunlight in the wards, and the circulation of fresh air, or the provision of isolation units.

To the indignant Miss Nightingale, the proposed hospital was reminiscent of 18th century ideas, and seemed designed more with the object of presenting an imposing facade to Southampton Water than to fulfil the function of a military hospital; she was convinced that to continue would prove a disaster, and a battle of wills between her and Lord Palmerston commenced.

She appealed to Lord Palmerston, the Prime Minister (and her neighbour at Broadlands, Hampshire) who was reputed to have said that he would prefer the unfinished work to be taken down and thrown into Southampton Water than be completed to prove unsuitable for the needs of the wounded who would occupy it.

Biggest white elephant

LORD PALMERSTON would not be moved, for a fresh start would involve an additional cost of £70,000, a figure which would not be easy to explain away. In consequence, the military hospital at Netley was to prove the largest and costliest white elephant ever compared up by the War Office.

Today, like the House of Pride in "Pigmea's Progress", the derelict Royal Victoria Hospital still presents its opulent facade to Southampton Water, while behind all its falling down is a state of neglect and disrepair. Apart from a small separate hospital in the grounds, the building is deserted and only awaits the final order, so long delayed, for demolition.

When that sentence is executed, it may evoke the triumphant shade of Florence Nightingale, whose "Notes on Hospitals" was successfully adopted by the War Office for the Herbert Memorial Hospital at Woodwich, which was built a mere five years after the foundation stone had been laid at Netley.

'Echo' Letter-box

BUILD NEW HOSPITAL AT NETLEY

To the Editor of the "Southern Evening Echo"

I HAVE read with great interest the letters that have been published in the "Echo" concerning the proposed demolition of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, and I was particularly interested in the one sent in by G. J. Scott, who gave in every detail the correct description of this hospital.

As an ex-employee between the years 1929-1942, and my duties took me to practically every department of the building, I fully support your correspondent. As regards this beautiful hospital as some people seem to think I can assure them that the only beauty is the front facing the sea and that in my opinion does not make a beautiful hospital. It's what's inside that counts.

To rebuild the part destroyed by fire and the cost involved to make it into present-day standards—not forgetting the upkeep—would be built with far less expense and I sincerely hope that if the local authorities take over the place they will have this in mind as this site, probably one of the best in

the South should not be misused. There is plenty of land for expansion—M. J. SUTTON (St. Huns-aton, Netley Abbey).

Preserving old locos

TOM BARGATE'S column "Topics of the Hour," very kindly featured on January 4 last, an article about a society that has been formed for the purpose of purchasing and preserving one of the well known "Merchant Navy" locomotives.

As I am connected with this

scheme, I was very disappointed at the apparent lack of local interest. I can only presume that, though we are enthusiasts in Southampton, but I find this hard to believe, as I constantly come across people who say, "what a shame that all steam locomotives are disappearing." Fortunately other people up and down the country are not so apathetic, because the Society is gathering increasing support.

A gentleman mentioned in a more recent edition of the "Echo," that BR (British Railways) ought to be generous and present the City of Southampton with one of the mentioned locomotives for permanent display, but I do not think there is enough support to warrant this.—M. V. SLIPPER, on behalf of the Merchant Navy Locomotive Preservation Society (St. Hazelebury-road, Totter).

Bouquet for Southerngas

WE thank "Satisfied Customer" for the bouquet. However, in fairness to our friends at the Gas Refinery we must point out that the raw materials they supply to us for gas making are anything but "somewhat dirty and liable to clog the filters of various gas appliances."

In fact, Gas supply us with feedstocks which help us make gas that is remarkably clean and free from impurities. The dropping of fines referred to was doubtless due to particles of rust in the gas mains being drawn along because of the higher velocity of the gas flow as a result of unprecedented demands during the cold spell. We are happy to have remedied the trouble for this customer—and to advise the staff for our friends at the refinery.—G. D. PHILLIPS, Chief Public Relations Officer, Southern Gas Board (Above Bar, Southampton).

Deal with this menace

CHESTNUT AVENUE, acting as a link between Eastleigh and the main Winchester to Southampton road, certainly lives up to its picturesque name. It is a fine old example of an English country lane, with green verges and wooded banks. Indeed, it would be an ideal highway if only it were still the nineteenth century and the only vehicles to use it were horse drawn.

Unfortunately, apart from having a hardened surface, Chestnut-avenue has not kept up with the times. Every day a torrent of lorries, motor cars, motor bikes, bicycles and pedestrians pass along it as if in some ghastly obstacle race, each in a particular hurry and vying for a place on the one narrow strip of tarmac.

With the increase of traffic, particularly since the establishment of industry along the road Chestnut-avenue has become a death trap, and claims a distressingly regular toll of accidents.

Considering that there are no obstacles to road widening and straightening here, least of all a pavement for those who like walking along the road every day is it not time that Chestnut-avenue was recognised as a twentieth century highway and improved accordingly?

The death penalty

ANY of your readers who wish to share in the massive protest against the No-Hanging Bill are invited to write indicating their wishes to the address at the foot of this letter. Or they may obtain collective petition form from us.

All letters and forms will be sent to Lord Kilmer—the former Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe—who will use them in his campaign to correct the balance of justice.

Nothing short of a nation-wide protest will compel the Government to take decisive action to save our children from violation and death at the hands of the rapid-killer. The survival of this type of killer is not to be balanced against the life of one small child.

We have been promised social welfare and security. This is the last case for those who gave this promise.

I would like to remind you readers that this is a matter above and beyond all political party considerations. And I hesitate to believe that any political creature can shut out the cries of the small victims of the rapid-killer.

To all your readers I hold out the invitation to Save Our Children.—T. J. NATHAN (KING Light, Harley Winney).

Colwell Bay holiday facilities

WHILE appreciating your article, "Looking at the Island," on Wednesday, January 26, when mentioning the West Wight we should like to point out that Colwell Bay has plenty of facilities for the holidaymakers. Deck chairs, bathing suits, beach huts, together with motor boats, rowing boats, canoes and boats, also a pitch and pull course and putting greens are available.

APPOINTMENTS

CLERICAL CLASS POSTS IN ORDNANCE SURVEY

There are vacancies in the Ordnance Survey at Southampton and Chesham, Surrey, for men and women who have obtained within a period of 3 years since 1954 five passes (including English or French Language) in G.C.E. or C.S.E. Grade 1 or corresponding examination. Successful candidates appointed to posts at Chesham may expect to be transferred to Southampton early in 1968.

SALARY: £357 at 18, £415 at 19, £462 at 20, £508 at 21 rising to £1,007 (plus a London Working Allowance) up to £1,412 per annum for those stationed at Chesham.

These posts lead to permanent and pensionable appointments with progression prospects to £3,457 and higher grades to £2,411.

Five-day week, three weeks' holiday with pay.

Apply for application form to:
Ordnance Survey,
Leatherhead Road, Chesham,
Surrey.

KOLLSMAN INSTRUMENT LTD.

recruits

Development Engineers, Technicians and Design Draughtsmen

In both senior and junior capacities to join a rapidly expanding team engaged in advanced aerospace instrument design. Current projects include the development of several electronic and electro-mechanical instruments for the Cosmos, S.S.T.

All appointments are permanent and a Company Pension Scheme is in operation.

For further details write or telephone
THE CHIEF DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER
KOLLSMAN INSTRUMENT LTD.
THE AIRPORT,
SOUTHAMPTON, East. Tel. 541218 2231

SHIPBUILDING MARINE ENGINEER

Practical Marine Engineer required for engine and control repair and maintenance related work in new building in small shipyard. Attractive conditions and scope for initiative. Bank hours available. Low tax. 10%.

Apply with particulars to:
Ramsay Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. Ltd.
Ramsay, Isle of Man. Tel. 2184

DIBBEN

CLERICAL ASSISTANTS

Young men, 16-18, recruited by William Dibben & Sons Ltd. to join the Customer Service Department. Interesting and varied work.

G.C.E. standard of education essential. Minimum requirement four "O" levels. Good salary and working conditions.

Write stating age, details of education and any other experience to:

Staff Director
WILLIAM DIBBEN & SONS
LIMITED
Antelope House
St. Mary's Road
Southampton

Instructor went too fast

PATRICK HARRY WRANNE, of Stirling-cloze, Totter, the proprietor of a Totter driving school, was fined £2 by Totter magistrates yesterday for speeding in Totter. He pleaded "Guilty" and was represented by Mr. W. J. R. Harrington.

Mr. Harrington said that his client fully realised that as a driving instructor, he was at fault in not checking his speed.

Sports arena plan for RVH

WITH reference to RVH, Netley
—make these grounds into
a golf course and you will have

..... 1/4

1/1

**AT AND GREENGROCERY
TMENTS**

**UL RANGE OF BACON,
nd FANCY CHEESES.**

p.m. ON FRIDAY



315619

On Her Maj

Open carefully—Re-use with Label
Code No. 27-25

It's D-for-demolition day at Netley Hospital

"Echo" Staff Reporter
DEMOLITION was officially starting today of the biggest white elephant in the history of hospital building. The Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, condemned by Florence Nightingale before it even opened in 1863, is at last coming down.

It is one of the largest demolition jobs ever, and it is being undertaken by a Southampton firm—William Perry's Demolition and Plant Hire, Ltd.—in conjunction with Southern Sand and Ballast, Ltd.

Within 18 months virtually nothing will remain of the quarter-of-a-mile long building which boasted 138 wards in which there were once 1,005 beds.

The brickwork will be used as foundations for roads dock extensions, and other construction work. All metal work will be sent off to foundries to be melted down again, and most of the slates and the best sections of their timber will eventually find their way to new buildings under construction.

Valuable

Every attempt will also be made to salvage the valuable Portland stone and Welsh granite that was used for the hospital's decorative stonework.

The Portland stone is reported to be of a perfect texture which cannot be quarried these days. The building stands majestically in 27 acres on the eastern side of Southampton Water and has been a well-known landmark for thousands who have sailed from Southampton.

When the hospital's foundation stone was laid by Queen Victoria in 1860 it was claimed to be the largest military hospital in the world.

It has a centre block surmounted by a dome, and two wings, all three storeys high. The corridors, which run the full length of the building, are reputed to be the longest in the world.

Plans of the hospital were bitterly criticised by Florence Nightingale, fresh back from the Crimea, on the grounds that the wards faced north-east and were poorly ventilated.

But her attempts to have the building stopped were unsuccessful.

Wounded from every theatre of war in which Britain has been engaged since Crimea have been tended at Netley. During the war the hospital was also used by the U.S. Army.

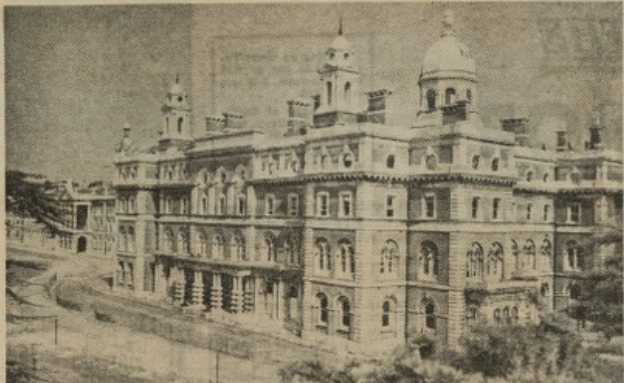
Neglect

Since 1948 the main building has stood empty and has rapidly deteriorated through neglect and disrepair, further aggravated by a

serious fire in the centre block in 1963.

The hospital site will eventually be developed as a recreational open space for the public.

To mark the start of demolition the contractors were today having a special "Open Day" on the site, to which had been invited the Press, television, and people associated with the old hospital.



Recent photograph of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley. The chain link fencing in the foreground, put there by the demolition contractors, circles virtually the whole of the building and is said to be nearly a mile long.—Photo: H. G. Armitage, Southampton.



Watched by a gallery of invited guests, the first chimney takes a ceremonial tumble.—"Echo" photo.

1091

NETLEY'S 'PANDORA'S BOX' IS SHINY BRIGHT

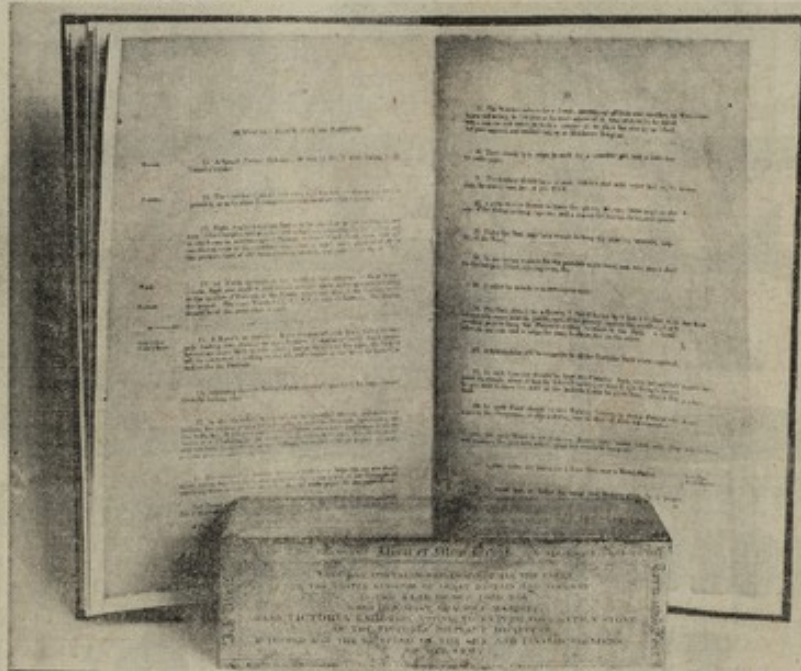
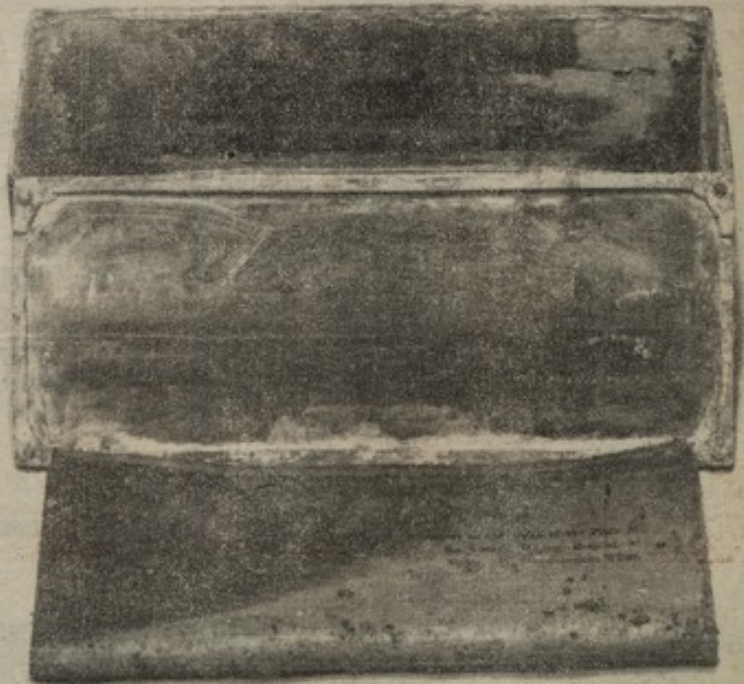
"Echo" Staff Reporter

WHEN the foundation stone of Victoria Military Hospital at Netley was laid by Queen Victoria in 1856, a shining copper casket was placed beneath the stone and, as most people know, now that the hospital is being demolished, this casket was recovered last month when the stone was lifted.

The box contained the prototype Victoria Cross, a Crimean medal, coins of the realm and papers.

Black and green with age and verdigris, the box presented a sorry sight and the papers were also stained and stuck together.

The casket and the papers were handed over to Southampton Corporation—the box went to the City museums department and



the papers to the Civic Record Office.

Now the box, a shining copper again, and the papers, carefully and meticulously cleaned, repaired and bound for protection, have been taken back to Netley and handed over to Col. J. F. D. Murphy, officer commanding the present nearby Royal Victoria Hospital.

SUPERB JOB

Craftsmen in the two Southampton departments have done a superb job of restoration work.

The casket was cleaned and repaired by Mr. H. Duffield, technical assistant in the museums department—the seams had been forced apart by damp. The inscription can now be read clearly.

Mr. G. A. Wilson, bookbinder-repairer in the Record Office, found the papers damp and stained with copper.

It was a difficult task to ease the pages apart before they could be dried and bound together.

The papers proved to be a copy of the prayers used at the foundation stone laying ceremony, a programme for the visit, a copy of the report which led to the building of the hospital and a

detailed description of the proposed building.

DOCUMENTS MISSING

According to the programme there should have been a parchment bearing the signatures of the Queen, the Prince Consort and the Secretary of State, but this document could not be found.

It may have disintegrated through dampness.

The accompanying photographs illustrate graphically how the casket and folded documents looked before and after restoration—a fine piece of restoration work by Southampton craftsmen.

Motorist fined £15

HARRY HOCKLEY, of Plantation Farm, Ramsdell, was fined a total of £15 by Whitechurch Magistrates at Overton yesterday after pleading "Guilty" to having no test certificate and to using an unlicensed vehicle.

He was given six months in which to pay after telling the court that he owed £75 on another fine and £30 on insurance stamps.

THE VICTORIA HOSPITAL AT NETLEY, NEAR SOUTHAMPTON, 1859



The Royal Victoria Military Hospital, Netley, famous landmark on Southampton Water, which is to be pulled down by order of the Ministry of Public Building and Works

4764

Stewart
4 February 1967

Honorary Editor
Army Medical Services Magazine

ARTICLE FOR PUBLICATION - SPRING 1967

The enclosed article and photographs are forwarded for publication in the Army Medical Services Magazine - Spring 1967 Number, as discussed with Sgt Cook of this unit during your visit of 2 Feb 67.

Permission to use the photographs is being sought, and will be sent on receipt.

(J.F.D. MURPHY)
Colonel
Commanding

QUEEN VICTORIA'S MYSTERY SOLVED

On Wednesday 7th December 1966, an exciting and unique ceremony took place at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hants.

In 1856, the original hospital was "launched" officially by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, who made a personal visit to lay the foundation stone. Under this stone was placed a sealed metal casket, the contents of which had since aroused much curiosity among those concerned with the Hospital. It was rumoured that medals, coins, papers and plans were inside, but in recent days no-one had been able to discover the exact nature of the contents.

It was with considerable trepidation, therefore, as well as high expectation, that a formal ceremony was planned to uncover the stone and open up this casket. Would it prove a monumental flop, if the stories were exaggerated or untrue - or would it add an exciting chapter to the history of the Army and our Corps ?

Among a distinguished gathering of guests were :-

Major-General A. Sachs, Representative Colonel Commandant.
Major-General T.F.M. Woods (Retired)
Brigadier Dame E. Margot Turner, Matron-in-Chief
Major-General W.B.F. Brennan, DDMS Southern Command
Major-General R.E. Barnsley (Retired) Curator, RMC Museum
Surgeon Rear Admiral E.B. Bradbury
Brigadier J. McGhie, Director of Army Psychiatry

Alderman R.C. Haskell, Deputy Mayor of Southampton
H.F. Lengmore Esq
Major-General R.J.G. Morrison
Colonel Schoepflin, Medical Liaison Officer, American Embassy
Brigadier Robinson, Medical Director, Reffey Park, Hersham
Major-General R.A. Stephen, Commandant Royal Army Medical College.
Brigadier R.J. Niven, Commandant, RAMC Depot
Colonel R.H. Robinson, Editor, Army Medical Services Magazine.

The Unit Social Centre was prepared as a local Museum, showing documents, pictures and articles of interest about the Hospital and its varied and exciting history. Our thanks are due here to the Corps Museum for the loan of many items making the display more impressive.

The site was still a scene of feverish activity on the morning of "The Day", as the mud and slush from the demolition lorries was scraped away and a new surface laid for the visiting dignitaries, guests and spectators. Special credit is due to Sgt Ebbatson RAMC, who, together with his staff, supervised the practical side of the preparations with his usual flair, and without whose efforts the ceremony could not have realised the success it did.

Wednesday, 7th December 1966. The stone was uncovered, and the casket revealed and opened in a most impressive ceremony. Although damp and mildewed, it was immediately obvious that the find was going to be worthy of the occasion. Medals and coins were visible, and also what looked like a parchment.

The casket was taken to the prepared Museum, and the coins, which now proved to be one of every kind in use in 1856, of copper, silver and gold, were laid out for inspection. The two medals were seen to be a Crimean Medal with the clasps of the four engagements at Alma, Inkerman, Balaclava and ~~Sudbura~~^{Sebastopol}; and a Victoria Cross with no name on the reverse. This may be the original Victoria Cross, presented to Her Majesty after she had inaugurated this most famous of all awards for bravery.

The parchment was unfortunately so wet as to render it untouchable, and was sent to the Civic Records Office, Southampton, who have since made a remarkably efficient job of restoration. It was found to include a copy of the prayers used at the original stone-laying ceremony; a programme for Her Majesty's visit; a copy of the report which led to the building of the Hospital; and a detailed description of the proposed building. Reference is made therein of a document bearing the signatures of the Queen and Her Consort and the Secretary of State, but ^{this} could not be found, and may have disintegrated through damp.

The Museum was then thrown open to the public, who crowded in to see the rare find, which by now was being guarded by two RAMC Apprentices, resplendent in Victorian uniforms.

The National Press and Television coverage was most comprehensive, and this delightful incident has now taken its place in the annals of our history.

The proud record of our Corps with regard to the Victoria Cross must surely have been enhanced even more by the discovery of a prototype of this award at the Royal Victoria Hospital. Her Majesty's great love for the magnificent building was well known, and the uncovering of the treasures laid there by her own hand, after more than a century of varied fortunes and changing roles, has certainly provided a fitting and happy finale to the story of the ^{old} Hospital.



Photograph of an old invitation
card found ^{by MR. FARR} in the ruins when
the old Hospital was being demolished



MP

FACILITY

Your representative should please be at the site of the ceremony at the Royal Victoria Hospital Netley not later than 2.15 p.m. and should please ask for the Public Relations Officer, MR. ONSLOW DENT.

NOTE ON THE HOSPITAL

Conceived in the days of the Crimean War and sited so that patients could be landed from troopships, the hospital had accommodation for 978 beds. The Army Medical School and the Nurses' Training School were the first establishments at Netley. The first patient was admitted in 1863.

All Nursing Sisters of the Army were trained at Netley, when the School was inaugurated and supervised by Florence Nightingale after her return from the Crimean War.

Queen Victoria and Florence Nightingale are known to have worshipped in the Royal Chapel at the Hospital.

A distinguished name in the history of Netley is that of Lieut-General Sir William LEISHMAN, responsible for the introduction of anti-typhoid vaccine, which had a profound effect on the health of the soldier and eventually on the whole world population.



PORTSMOUTH & SUNDERLAND

NEWSPAPERS LTD.

Stanhope Road, PORTSMOUTH

EVENING NEWS

HAMPSHIRE TELEGRAPH

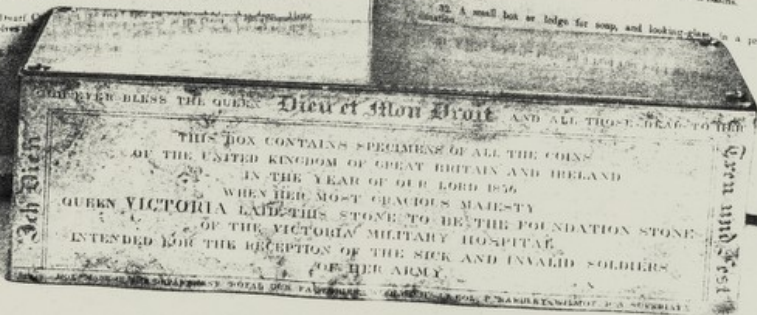
CHICHESTER OBSERVER

BOGNOR OBSERVER

SURGICAL BLOCK FOR 200 PATIENTS

- Patients.** 11. A Grand Parlor Entrance, 40 feet by 200 ft deep, leading to the Grand Corridor.
- Corridor.** 12. The Corridor to be 12 feet wide, with windows, to open as far down as possible, so as to allow a complete circulation of air when necessary.
13. Eight Anglo-American Nurses to be placed at proper intervals in each floor of the Corridor, and at either end a Butress, projecting 24 feet in front, in which can be accommodated Patients in small Wards, with more light and ventilation than in the ordinary ones; and a small space partitioned off for the portable bath of the floor, cleaning utensils, and stools for the Nurses.
- Wards.** 14. All Wards throughout the building have attached to them Water-closets, Bath and Sullies, and also an Ablution space, differing inside according to the number of Patients in the Wards, which vary from 2, the smallest, to 16, the largest. There are Wards for 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 16 Patients. The arrangement should be of the same class in each.
- Nurse's or Orderly's Room.** 15. A Nurse's or Orderly's Room to open off each Ward, with a locker only leading into them; no door, because, if capable of being closed, surgical knives are more likely to take place, and as there is no fire-place the Orderly will be interested in looking to the fire and comfort of the Ward for himself, as well as for the Patients.
16. Adjoining these 9-Patient Wards are small ones for 2 Patients, these Orderly looking after both.
17. In the Orderly's Room are to be provided shelves, and drawers or lockers, for putting away the extra clothing, and for the clean, surgical instruments, &c. It will have a window looking from either side, a window in all the rooms of the building, to be common use, in addition to open the glass doors, and windows, for the fresh air to come in, and to be shut off, if necessary, and to be so arranged as to be easily accessible.
18. The drawers or lockers should be sufficiently large for any kind of change, and a window in each room, in the event of the Government supplying them with a sink for the water, also for waste paper for the water-closets.

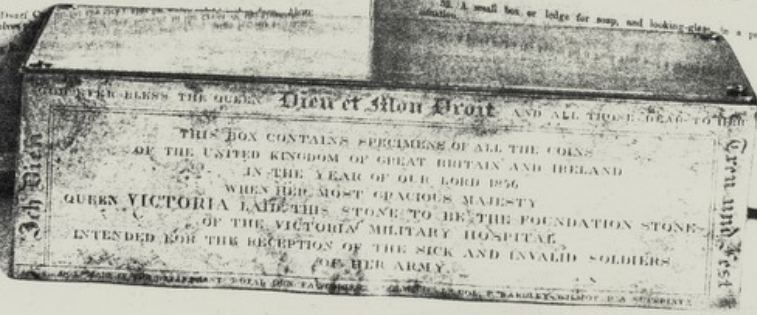
19. The Water-closets to have 2 seats, partitioned off from one another, in Water-closets, to be set for cold water, in such a manner as to allow the seat to be lifted, but not capped, and ratched out, as at Millicos Hospital.
20. There should be a ledge in each for a Chamber-pot, and a little box for waste paper.
21. The Sullies should have a sink, with hot and cold water laid on, to scum down the plates, cups, &c., of the Ward.
22. A partition or dresser to place the plates, &c. on; leave paper on the edge of the shelves to hang cups on; and a drawer for knives, forks, and spoons.
23. Under the Sink may be a trough to keep the cleaning utensils, soap, &c., of the Ward.
24. In one corner a place for the portable night-stool, and over this a shelf for the bed-pan, urinal, spitting-cup, &c.
25. A roller for towels in a convenient spot.
26. The Bath should be a fixture, 6 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, with hot and cold water laid on, partitioned off for privacy, and on the partition a wooden pegs to hang the Patient's clothes on when in the Bath. A towel-roller on one side, and a ledge for soap, brushes, &c. on the other.
27. A flexible tube will be requisite to fill the Portable Bath when required.
28. In each Corridor should be kept one Portable Bath, with individual frames, but for any man to have his bath at the bedside if one be given him. Also a Hip Bath.
29. In each Ward should be one Folding Screen, so that a Patient who wants private the Clergyman, or who is dying, may be shut off from his comrades.
30. On each Ward is an Ablution Room, with basins fitted with piping, hot and cold water; pegs for towels to hang on.
31. A place under the basins for 2 Foot Tubs, and 4 Metal Basins.
32. A small hot or ledge for soap, and looking glass, in a proper position.



(SURGICAL) BLOCK FOR 200 PATIENTS

- 11. A Grand Parties Entrance, 40 feet by 20; 6 steps leading to the Grand Corridor.
- 12. The Corridor to be 12 feet wide, with windows to open as far as possible, so as to allow a complete circulation of air when necessary.
- 13. Eight Anglo-American Stoves to be placed at proper intervals in each floor of the Corridor, and at either end a Patent, projecting 24 feet in front, in which can be accommodated Patients in Small Wards, with more light and ventilation than in the ordinary ones; and a small space partitioned off for the portable bath of the floor, cleaning utensils, and coal for the Stoves.
- 14. All Wards throughout the building have attached to them Water-closets, Baths, and Sullies, and also an additional space, differing in size according to the number of Patients in the Wards, which vary from 2, the smallest, to 16, the largest. There are Wards for 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 16 Patients. The amount should be of the same class in each.
- 15. A Nurse's or Orderly's Room to open off each Ward, with a door only leading into them; no door, however, if capable of being closed, might be more likely to take them, and as there is no fire-place, the Orderly will be interested in looking to the fire and comfort of the Ward for himself, as well as for the Patients.
- 16. Adjoining these 16 Patient Wards are small ones for 2 Patients, these Orderly looking after both.
- 17. In the Wash-rooms are to be provided shelves, and drawers or lockers for patients, as well as a few extra lockers, each one for clothes, and one for two boots, &c. It will have to be arranged that, in the event of the Government supplying these are to be made, also for waste paper for the water-closets.
- 18. The drawers or lockers should be made very large for, say two drawers each, with a number of compartments, &c. In the event of the Government supplying these are to be made, also for waste paper for the water-closets.
- 19. Six Dressing Rooms, each 10 feet by 10 feet, with 2 shelves, &c.
- 20. A Pantry, &c.

- 19. The Water-closets to have 2 seats, partitioned off from one another, to Water-closets, be set self acting, as this plan is the most approved of. One of them to be fitted with a rack for cold water, in such a manner as to allow the seat to be lifted, but pan-cup, and washed out, as at Middlesex Hospital.
- 20. There should be a ledge in each for a chamber-pot, and a little box for waste paper.
- 21. The Sullies should have a sink, with hot and cold water laid on, to Sullies, clean the plates, cups, &c., of the Ward.
- 22. A plate-rack or dresser to place the plates. An iron lean pegs on the edge of the shelves to hang cups on; and a drawer for knives, forks, and spoons.
- 23. Under the Sink may be a trough to keep the cleaning utensils, soap, &c., of the Ward.
- 24. In one corner a place for the portable night-stool, and over this a shelf for the bed-pot, urinal, spitting-cup, &c.
- 25. A roller for towels in a convenient spot.
- 26. The Bath should be a fixture, 6 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, with hot and cold water laid on, partitioned off for privacy, and on the partition (over wooden pegs to hang the Patient's clothes on when in the Bath. A towel-rack on one side, and a ledge for soap, brushes, &c. on the other.
- 27. A flexible tube will be requisite to fill the Portable Bath when required.
- 28. In each Corridor should be kept one Portable Bath, with indiarubber Pans, Bath, round its wheels, about 6 feet by 2 feet 6 inches, so that if it is thought better for any man to have his bath at the bedside it can be given him. Also a Trip Bath.
- 29. In each Ward should be one Folding Screen, so that a Patient who soever requires the Clergyman, or who is dying, may be shut off from his comrades.
- 30. In each Ward is an Ablution Room, with basin fitted with zinc, and water and wash; hot and cold water, pegs for towels to hang on.
- 31. A place under the basin for 2 Iron Trays, and 4 Metal Basins.
- 32. A small box or ledge for soap, and looking glass, in a proper position.





'ALEXON' SUIT

This suit in there is really for today occasions. It is a 100% broad cloth with long line and 4 1/2" buttons fastening. **10 1/2 gns.**

'BLANES' DRESS

This dress down comes out top for today and reason it looks good—well, well, well, dress style with reinforced hand front in white cotton. **84/-**

'CLARE ASHTON' COAT

Our own fashion brand name. Well, well, well, dress style with 4 buttons, 4 buttons, and 4 buttons. **8 gns.**

'JAEGER' TEAM-UPS

Black top pair suit and 420-wear in 100% wool. All wool. Fully lined suit—size 34-40. **79/6**
Many cashmere with red collar 34-40. **£5.15.6**

First Floor of Fashion.



BRAND NAMES WEEK

MENSWEAR



"HEADROW" CLOTHES
Tailored to perfection. Tailoring. **15 gns.**

"RYFORD" KNITWEAR
Choose from a wide selection of colors. **£5.10.0**

"WOLSEY" SOCKS
Full range of wool-nylon. **9/6**

"TUF" TOWN SHOES
Good quality leather. **59/11**



"LADYBIRD" DRESSING GOWNS
Full length evening gowns. **45/11**

LADIES' "DENTS" GLOVES
Wool, silk, or cotton. **12/11**

"ESSELL" CHAMELLE HANDRAGS
Choose from the new spring range. **59/11**

"ARISTOC" NYLONS
To wear in. **4/11**

"Chastend" 15 denier, seamless microfilament. **6/11**
"Chastend" 30 denier, fully fashioned. **6/11**



Rowen

BY OFFERING 2/- IN THE £ OFF ALL ROWEN MERCHANDISE WE ARE DRAWING YOUR ATTENTION TO THE EXCELLENCE OF ROWEN QUALITY TESTED MERCHANDISE. IT IS THE BEST FOR VALUE IN ITS FIELD EVEN AT REGULAR PRICES! HURRY! THIS OFFER IS FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!

10% OFF
all Rowen
MERCHANDISE
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!
here are a few examples

CORSETS

Choose between boned or corset with elastic inserts and 4" or 5" bustle for extra support or 100% lace effect. **37/11**



MEN'S HAND-KERCHIEFS
White, blue, or red. **4/6**

NYLONS

Super-nylon, available in 100% or 50% wool. **4/5**



MEN'S TROUSERS
Trousers made to measure. **79/11**



MEN'S SHIRTS
100% cotton. **26/11**



BOYS' DUFFLE COATS
100% wool. **89/11**

OWEN OWEN LIMITED, THE BARGATE, SOUTHAMPTON, TEL 13891

RYDER TROPHY DRAW

The Ryder Trophy, one of South Hampshire's greatest sporting events, will be played on Monday, February 15. Draw: Tisbury Sports v Corbridge. Also: Nicholas Young v Bamburgh. B.C.C. v Brixton. Tisbury, White Horse v Waterbury.

Give or take a ton or two

The world weighs more than 5.5 million tons, according to the latest estimate by the United States Geological Survey.—Reuter.

Arctic manoeuvres

Between 9,000 and 10,000 officers and men from six NATO countries will take part in "Winter Exercise" exercises in the Barents area of Northern Norway from February 27 to March 26. Britain will send about 1,000 men.—Reuter.

Stag transfer

Skilthorpe county hunting parties moved yesterday to the full transfer of the tenure of the Stag Inn, Charlton St. Martin. The inn was transferred from Mr. Richard Joseph Agony to Mr. Bruce Alfred Cummins of Southgate Inn, Devon.—Reuter.

No lights

For parking his car in D-wagon Park—avenue, Tisbury, we met light, David Thomas Walsh, of Arthur-road, Shirley, Southampton, was fined £3 at Tisbury yesterday for parking "Cliffy".

Correction

In a headline on a report of the Southern Fruit and Pulp Association's annual dinner at Southampton on Thursday (published in Friday's edition of the "Echo"), Association members were inaccurately referred to as "grocers". We regret the error.

175 more Wessex Artists' exhibits than last year

THE bi-annual exhibition of the Wessex Artists, now on view at the Southampton Art Gallery, is unlike any other local exhibition in that it is not the work of any particular society or art club. These exhibitions, which were started in 1951, are open to all artists both or resident in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Berkshire and the Isle of Wight, whether amateur or professional.

It thus takes the cream of all the local art societies over a large area in addition to the work of a number of artists who do not necessarily belong to any club or society.

Over a period of years it has, with occasional lapses, produced some interesting and worthwhile exhibitions, and this year will be no exception, and it is up to average, and a great improvement on the last exhibition in 1964.

In one thing this exhibition is remarkable. It has no fewer than 295 exhibits, an advance of 125 over last year and, I think, a record for the Wessex Artists.

There were well over 1,000 entries, which must have entailed some hard work for the selection committee under the chairmanship of Richard Purdie, RA, who has himself contributed some of his paintings from a recent Academy.

From those whom one has almost come to look upon as "regulars" at these exhibitions, there are two abstracts by Peter Pollock, *Impulse* and his reactions to the patterns made by sea and sky, and *Abstract*, K. Rowland has a good still life, and there is another attractive still life by Sylvia Ramsey, whose work is always slightly reminiscent of Tristan Hillier. C. S. Dobson has devoted his fingered finger to a really original and somewhat example of Op Art, "Puzzle." Pat O'Brien, whose coloured abstracts have been a feature of a number of recent exhibitions, has this year produced an effective study for a breeze wall sculpture, O. Pilrow has a straightforward, extremely pleasant harbour scene, which is rather 19th century in treatment.

WOMEN PAINTERS

None of the most distinguished work in the exhibition comes from female hands, whose paintings were one of the redeeming features in last year's exhibition. Her "Verdian Madrigal" and "The Lake" show a tendency to become less abstract in treatment than her former work.

Another woman painter who can always be relied upon to give a great deal of pleasure is Elizabeth Lomas. The handling of the rich colouring in her beautiful, freely painted "Autumn Leaves" provides some of the best painting in the whole exhibition. In her most effective "Water

Marcel England has broken away from her usual type of efficient if slightly stereotyped picture and produced an effective abstract which she must have enjoyed painting.

One of Frederick Binkerton's most effective semi-abstract Portland Houses hangs next to a really precise and most delicately handled Hampshire landscape by Ronald Broad. His Maynard gives an effective Victorian slant to Pop Art in his colourful and amusing "Many Mansions"; there are some good abstract landscapes by L. Whitford, and E. H. Sears shows that he can paint landscapes with as great a fluency and assurance as he does the sea. The free handling of Audrey Moore's abstract impressionistic "On The Avon" is a great advance on anything one remembers from this painter.

PRIMITIVES

I am beginning to view with a certain amount of suspicion the increasing number of "primitives" that are creeping into recent exhibitions, both here and elsewhere. There are a good number of them in the Wessex and I am not quite happy about all of them. If a composition is not good and the subject not interesting and viewed with a fresh eye, all the naive perspective and childishly crude colouring in the

world cannot justify its inclusion in any exhibition under the rather doubtful banner of "Primitive." Here there are several of such pictures that do not justify a second look.

These remarks do not apply to such pictures as C. W. Middle's "Merrymen's Harbour" which is good, the buildings in the background, although greatly simplified, are treated with great sensitivity and the whole picture has interest and appeal as has a similar type of painting by M. E. Purdy's "Dockyard View" which is, unfortunately spoilt by its name. I liked too, some of the touches in Hilda Bailey's "My Garden."

WATER-COLOURS

The standard of water-colours is particularly high this year. It is good to see again some of J. C. T. Wain's highly accomplished work.

Barry Kille has produced two extremely sensitive studies in water-colour, "Conifer Copse" and "Grove in Surrey" and in her "Fogotten Tomb" Marie Wickham has shown great imagination and sensitive use of tone. Her delightful sketch of the "Great Week at Weymouth" should give great pleasure to anyone who took part in it.



On The Sea, by Doris Roberts

Doris Roberts in her quick sketch of figures "On The Sea" has come up to, if not surpassed, her own high standards, although this sketch lacks the hint of this sketch which one has come to expect from her. I liked Elizabeth Hillier's "Apple Harvest" and "Garden" and "Crackington Haven" and a good figure sketch, "Study for 'A Cool Millar'" by George Broad.

Two painters of Lymington in very favourite subject this year were B. H. Avery of "Old Ferry House" and the other of "Victorian Lymington" by R. J. Baskin, are both effective. There is also an interesting collage "The Arena" by a newcomer, Bill Bailey.

exhibitions a small group this year only four of extremely busy ones give up a whole day to pass judgment on the vast quantity of work that is sent in. The work of a selection committee is a gruelling and often it may seem unenviable, Artists who have had their picture rejected and those from whom they have tentatively chosen the wrong picture, are not as reluctant to express their opinions.

A little gratitude and praise would not come amiss, for without the time and thought that the selection committee give to their task the show could not go on.

The exhibition is open until February 20.

J.G.



Merrymen's Harbour by C. W. Middle. — "Nico" photo.

SCULPTURE

The sculpture entries, too, are up this year. They range from Ann Hughes' "Barn's Head" which is rather reminiscent of the work of Lynn Chadwick and two studies of "Heros" by Eric J. Haxford, and some very good work by Henry Moore, the possibly academic "Reading" by A. D. Carpenter in wood there are the splendidly massive "Dancing Couple" in stone by R. M. Baskin, and some nice pieces in stone and other by R. E. Lane. I liked too the expressive little "Sculpture" "Other" by R. Broken Houses.

Finally a word for those whose work makes these exhibitions possible and who if the forwarded to the catalogue is anything to go by, get more books than has gone for their pains. Before each of these

£30 fine for a Hythe man

COACH driver Roy Dean (23), of Coton-wood, Hythe, was fined £30 with the option of three months imprisonment at Southampton Quarter Sessions yesterday for having unauthorised intercourse with a girl under 16.

The court was told that the girl had never had a baby and that Dean had asked if he could marry her.

The girl's parents were not in favour of the marriage at present and had rejected his offer of buying to maintain the baby.

SPRING COMES TO HAWKINS WITH GAY AND EXCITING NEW DESIGNS IN CURTAINING AND NETS

REVERSIBLE CURTAINING
An exciting new range of reversible Curtains printed both sides.
Example: **7/11**

MODERN TREND FABRICS
Buckram, Roman for Peter and traditional French new fabrics available. Custom-made drapes and curtains.
Example: **9/11**

QUALITY BROCADES
Exclusive brocades in fine quality cotton brocades in both traditional and modern designs.
Example: **9/11**

★ STAR VALUES
Including Curtains Nets WHITE ALL COTTON NETS

Attractive and durable reversible white curtains. Exceptional value. **3/50**

WHITE TERYLE NETS
Pleated detachable in a very smart white mesh white net. **2/11**

FOR KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
Get striped pleats in reversible detachable net. **3/11**

LANCASHIRE COTTON SHEETS
Extraordinary Lincaster and British-made sheets will welcome the superb value at 58/11. Wash with care of depletors, avoid hot water—follow United States.

PILLOW CASES & PILLOW CASE SETS
Good Lincaster cotton, and here again the choice in width and the value experts. Look here for the price as well as the finest threads.

Come and see these unbeatable values now!

HANOVER BUILDINGS SOUTHAMPTON

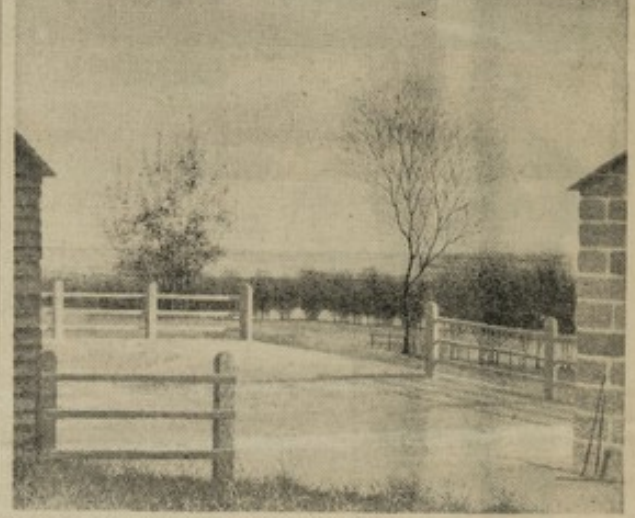
★ SPECIALS

★ **From the Household Section—** now a lot of the really good values at 58/11

COLOURED TERRY TOWELS
The very best! 40 x 50, 50 x 50 at 4/3

COLOURED TABLECLOTHS
Woven-design in the new and Printed Blue Satin. Washable tablecloth. From 5/6

TWILL SHEET BARGAIN
Exceptional and bargain quality. 40 x 50 only. 59/6



Landscape from Alexander Fern, Athemsworth, by Ronald Broad.

Repair plea for war memorial

MEMBERSHIP of Copthorne British Legion is now 54, the branch was held at a meeting at the Social Headquarters.

A social sub-committee had been formed to plan the entertainment side of the branch.

The branch decided to ask the parish council to carry out the necessary repairs to the war memorial at Copthorne Church, as well as possible.

The question of a future ladies' section of the branch was also discussed, the branch were able to confirm their decision to guarantee £200 towards the Parish Hall project.

After the meeting, Mr. O. M. May, FRMS gave a talk on his recent trip around Australia.

Shanklin golf winners

A SCORE of 21 up won for A. Miller (24) an open boys' competition at Shanklin and Bournemouth Golf Club.

Other leading returns of an entry of 28 were: J. Hurley (29) all square; M. J. McChelland (4) 1 net; D. E. Hymans (11) down; P. Solt (14) 1 down; J. James (22) 1 down.

Mr. P. Matthews was the silver division of the ladies' section monthly medal with a return of 82-78 followed by Mrs. A. G. Thompson 94-79 and Mrs. M. D. Doherty 95-78. Bronze division winner was Mrs. M. Miller, 120-72, followed by Mrs. A. Thomas 118-71 and Mrs. E. D. Young 113-70.

M. Galloway (16) won the open Bobberley event with 37 points after a tie with A. Mitchell (24).

FREE MAKING

LARGE NEW SELECTIVE RANGE of LANCASHIRE BROCADES and PRINTS—curtains made free of charge. Limited quantities. Mail order.

B. & W. LINEN STORES LTD.
89 Above Bar, Southampton TR24 1JL

STARTS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3. FOR 14 DAYS ONLY.



ELEVENTH-HOUR second thoughts are being had over whether or not the central tower and dome at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, should be demolished.

All seemed to be cut and dried when at the end of March I had words with Mr. D. N. O. Harris, a chief architect with the Ministry of Public Building.

"We decided that when the hospital was gone, the tower with the dome on top, would be out of scale with the hospital's chapel," he said.

Since then, however, the actual hospital structure adjoining

the tower has crumbled. And some people now think the architect's sense of proportion is not so greatly offended after all.

So soon the architects will go into another huddle.

If the tower and dome is re-prieved money will not have to go on erecting an alternative front entrance to the chapel, although, of course, the old tower will have to be given a new facade.

The cross, which may have been lifted off by RAF helicopter, would also remain over the dome.

... and did the research, says: "I think we have something more than a portrait of the set."

The intention is to let Byron speak for himself.

* * *

Jack de Manio is back to Home Service "Today" duty this week after his usual Spring break.

"It's not been a holiday," he says, "I've been working very hard writing a book about the human side of BBC activities."

LIGHT

3, Swingalong. 4.15, The Dales. 31, Racing Results. 4.32, Newly Dressed. 5.32, Roundabout. 7.20, Sports. 7.30, Sporting Chance.

8, News; Comment. 8.15, Souvenir. 8.45, The Embassy Lark. 9.15, Vienna City of Dreams.

10, Strings by Starlight. 10.31, Music. 11, It's One O'Clock. 2, News; Weather.

Lions give pensioners a holiday

IT was holiday morning recently for ten Southampton old age pensioners who, as guests of Southampton's Lions Club, gathered in the Gaumont cinema car park for the coach that was to take them to their week's "everything paid" holiday in Southsea.

They will join 190 other old people, guests of various Lions Clubs from the South and West, and will be entertained for the week by Portsmouth Lions Club.

Climax of the holiday will be an Edwardian ball next Friday, with the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth and the presidents and officers of the Lions Club among the guests.

The holiday is an annual event, and last year at Bournemouth, one old gentleman became romantically entangled with an old lady also on the holiday. They were married when they got back to Southampton.

Southampton Lions Club president, Mr. Eric Cawte saw the coach-load off.

7, News; Music. 8, News; The Whistler. 8.30, 21st Precinct.

9, News; On the Scene. 9.30, Stars and Stripes.

10, World Scene. 10.30, Tonight.

11, News; Sports. 11.10, World of Money. 11.15, John Doremus.

12, News; Music; Date With Chris.

REDIFFUSION

A—Home. B—Light. C—7 am to 6.30 pm, Music Programme; 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm, Foreign Selection; 7.30 pm to 3 am, Radio Luxembourg. D—BBC2. E—BBC1. F—Southern TV. G—London TV.

HOSPITALS

Today, 8—9.10 pm, Your Tuesday Requests (D.J., Zena Millard).

Royal South Hants: Mr. T. Allen, Mr. C. Vaughan, Mr. L. Booty, Mrs. J. Leahy, Mrs. J. Perren, Mrs. B. Farrant, Miss M. Conner, Mrs. D. Lann, Mr. B. Payne, Mr. R. Vane. General: Mr. H. Spencer, Mrs. J. Connis. Chest: Mrs. B. Smith. Eye: Mr. F. Allen, Mr. P. Donnelly, Mr. F. Gray. Fred Woolley: Mr. T. Woodhouse.

Wednesday, 7, For the Children.

8, Look Around.

8.15, Dymond's Time.

8.45, Have You Heard.

9, Epilogue.

Thursday, 8, Music Makers, Part 1.

8.15, Thursday Requests.

8.45, Music Makers, Part 2.

9, Epilogue.

United service at Winchester

THE Mayor of Winchester, Mrs. W. J. Carpenter Turner with her husband, Mr. W. J. Carpenter Turner, attended evening worship at Weeke Methodist Church on Sunday. The occasion was the quarterly united service with the Parish of Weeke, and the church was full.

The Rev. Bryan F. Spinney, Methodist minister, conducted the service, and lessons were read by the Mayor and by Mr. A. Finch. The clergy of the parish were present, and the combined Anglican and Methodist choirs led the singing.

Dr. D. M. A. Mercer, diocesan lay reader, spoke on the implications and relevance of worship.

AL...
p...
beach
Signa
Estab
proce
assist
shoul
An
syster
electr
lights
event
seriou

IN THE NETLEY 'TREASURE'—A VICTORIA CROSS

"Echo" Staff Reporter
 ONE of the mysteries of the old Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, was solved yesterday when underneath the hospital's foundation stone was found the prototype Victoria Cross.

The hospital, which is being demolished, was opened by Queen Victoria in 1816. Over the years there has been uncertainty whether the prototype Victoria Cross was underneath the 21-ton Welsh granite foundation stone.

The VC was created by Royal Warrant just four months prior to Queen Victoria laying the foundation stone.

CEREMONY
 The lifting of the stone took place with almost as much pomp and ceremony as when the stone was laid.

Members of the "top brass" of the Royal Army Medical Corps were present. So too, were members of the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.



The 21-ton Welsh granite foundation stone is gently lifted from its 119 years old resting place.

Then an excavator driven by Mr. Arthur Jennings, from Westbury, Southampton, moved in to lift the huge stone. Underneath was a smaller block, made of Bath stone and inscribed "Victoria Military Hospital, 1867". Then this was raised, to reveal the copper casket.

Excavated contractor, Mr. Bill Perry, handed the casket to Col. J. P. D. Murphy, Officer Commanding the present auxiliary Royal Victoria Hospital, who got to work with a screw-driver to prise the lid open.

TENSION
 It was a tense moment. A heavy demolition tractor creaked on a sinner rail, and Press and television cameras were at the ready.

Then the Victoria Cross appeared, followed by a silver Crimea Medal complete with all four campaign bars. Also from the casket were lifted copies of the rules and plans of the hospital.

Col. Murphy presented the casket and contents to Major-Gen. A. Sachs, representative Officer Commanding of the RAMC. Major-Gen. Sachs said attention would be given to a memorial to doctors, nurses and other members of the RAMC, and he hoped they would be an inspiration to present and future members of the Corps.

RED CUSHION
 The casket's contents were then placed on a red cushion held



REN McCrann, who led a "baker's dole" party through the streets, to the accompaniment of a brass band, led the RAMC band from the Corps Depot at Myland near Aldershot. On each side of the band was a nurse of the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

The Victoria Cross and the other items from the casket took pride of place as a RAMC exhibition, relevant to the foundation of the Royal Victoria Hospital, held in the YMCA building in the hospital grounds. Included among the exhibits was a portrait of Queen Victoria, which used to hang at the hospital, and a wooden sign erected by Queen Victoria and presented by her to the hospital in 1832.

Major-Gen. Sachs said he thought the Victoria Cross was



The big numeral—Col. Desmond Murphy, Officer Commanding the present Royal Victoria Hospital, prisms open the copper casket.



At last—the prototype of the 2,344 Victoria Crosses that have been awarded is held up for all to see. In Col. Murphy's left hand is the silver Crimea Medal, complete with all four campaign bars.

"Absolutely perfect." It was hoped it would join other exhibits at the permanent RAMC Museum at the Corps Depot at Myland.

MAY BE ANOTHER
 "At this stage I cannot say if the Cross is unique," said Major-Gen. Sachs. "There may be another prototype in an Army depot or in the Royal Household."

Others present at the ceremony included Lieut.-Gen. Sir Hubert Dwyer, Director General of the Army Medical Services; Brigadier-General A. S. Bredbury, commanding the Royal Naval Hospital; and the Army's Matron-in-Chief, Eric Dame Marjorie Turner, and two representatives of the Ministry of Public Building and Works, Mr. A. O. Henney and Mr. D. N. O. Harris, of Southampton.

The hospital, which could take over 1,000 beds, and had over 120 wards, has been derelict for some years. It is being completely demolished, except for the Royal Chapel and demolition work is likely to be finished next summer. It is hoped in some quarters that the hospital site, which commands a wide view of Southampton Water, will eventually become a recreational open space for the public.

VINES PHOTOGRAPHIC CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

SENSATIONAL ZOOM HOME MOVIE OUTFIT
 Save £6-10. This makes this Christmas offer. You get an auto zoom camera with 10 x 30 mm lens. Fully automatic exposure. LUMAX AUTO-ZOOM PRODUCTION. Automatic self-braking. Zoom lens, also 80 x 30 zoom, lens, built-in, color film, ready to shoot and back.

SAVE £6 ON THESE SURPRISE 10x30
 Superbly designed. Fully automatic. Instantly focused in ten seconds and back. 10 x 30 wide angle lens. Zoom lens, auto focusing and adjustable right exposure. Angle of view 65°. Minimum size and carrying strap included. Formerly sold at £18.5s. NOW ONLY £9.19.6. 15-9 down & 6 monthly payments of 24/6 (incl. VAT £18.12.6).

KODAK OUTFITS
 FROM AS LITTLE AS £0.12.1. The ideal gift for the young photographer. Choose from the full range of Kodak outfits at Vines. The 154 series includes: 108 camera, Kodak 135 film, 3 flashguns and battery.

Picture in 10 secs.
 It's possible with the PARLOID SWINGER. Be a great hit at the Christmas party by exhibiting your pictures with a Parloid Swinger. Take your pictures that show the finished result in the associated press in just 10 seconds. £9.19.6. 15s down & 6 m. p. of 24/6 (incl. VAT £18.12.6).

De-Luxe Superb Quality HOLDALLS
 Protect your valuable equipment in aluminum holdalls. There are two magnificent models available, both in durable and stylish and lined with cozy. LARGE 11" x 8 1/2" x 6" £2.19.6. MEDIUM 9 1/2" x 8" x 6" £2.3.6.

FANTASTIC FLASHGUN
 The most reliable camera flashgun ever. A compact flashgun with an amazing light output. Take pictures like you see them—get your pictures in 10 seconds. £3.19.6. 15s down & 6 m. p. of £12.2 (incl. VAT £18.12.6).

VINES CAMERAS LTD
 162 HIGH STREET, SOUTHAMPTON Tel. 22150

VAUXHALL BEDFORD MAIN DEALERS JAGUAR ROVER LAND ROVER RETAIL DEALERS

Cars of Distinction NEW

VAUXHALL
 Viscount Saloon. Cream white with blue trim. Fitted with Powerdisc and power assisted steering.
 Cresta Saloon. Sapphire blue with blue trim.
 VX 4/30 Saloon. Creamy fawn with brown trim.
 Victor Super Estate Car. Cream white and Burgundy with beige trim. Fitted with 4-speed gearbox and disc brakes.

BEDFORD
 6-wal. Van. Cream white.

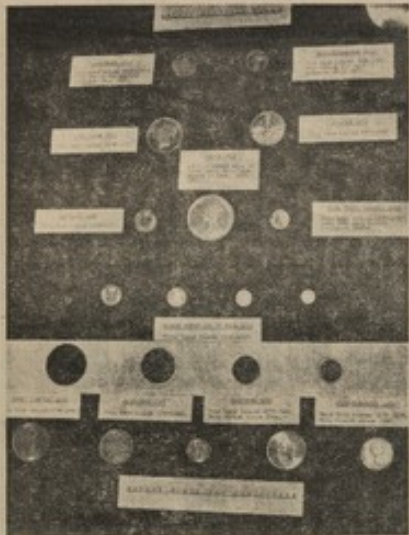
ROVER
 2000 TC Saloon. White with red trim.

LAND ROVER
 850c. Paved. Grey with grey trim. 5100 truck cab. 1 blue load. Dealer appointed and extra windscreen wiper.

USED

1935 JAGUAR 5 Type 4.2-litre Fixed Head Coupe. Finished in dark blue with blue trim. 5100. Fitted rear window. 1,700 miles.	£1,795
1935 JAGUAR 3.4-litre Saloon. Finished in maroon with black trim. Fitted with automatic transmission and radio. 11,800 miles.	£1,495
1935 ROVER 3000 Saloon. Finished in British Racing Green with black trim. Fitted with overdrive and radio. 2,310 miles.	£810
1935 ROVER 3000 Saloon. Finished in British Racing Green. 1,100 miles.	£895
1935 ROVER 3-litre Saloon. Finished in dark blue with blue trim. 25,470 miles.	£795
1935 (Mod.) VAUXHALL Victor 191 de Luxe Estate Car. Finished in white and red with red trim. Fitted with radio. 24,420 miles.	£610
1935 VAUXHALL Vite 2000 Saloon. Finished in white with black trim and black trim. 6,740 miles.	£575
1935 FORD Consul Saloon. Finished in white with red trim. 20,000 miles.	£510
1935 ASTON Mini Traveller. Finished in green with green trim. 18,200 miles.	£285

WINCHESTER MOTOR COMPANY LTD
 St. Cross Road, WINCHESTER Tel. 5231/2



The coins, including (centre) some Maundy money.

Netley Hospital finds are on display

ECHO STAFF REPORTER

THE coins and medals removed from under the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, last December, are now on exhibition in the two show cases in the main entrance to Southampton Civic Centre.

The copper basket in which the coins and medals resided is also on view. This basket was repaired and restored by the City Museums Department and papers also placed in it were repaired and bound by the Civic Record Office. Photographs of both the basket and some of the papers have appeared in the "Echo".

One of the medals, a Victoria Cross, is thought to be the prototype given to Queen Victoria shortly before the ceremony of laying the stone at Netley in 1858. The first VC awarded to individuals was not given until the following year.

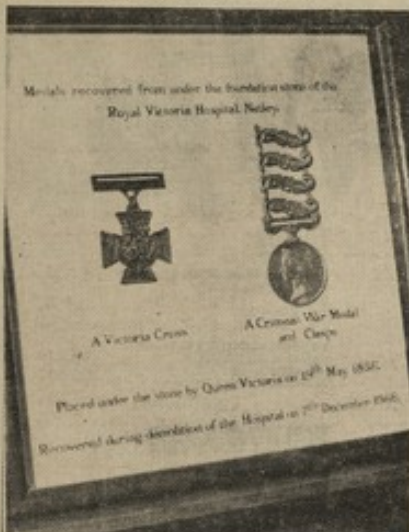
CRIMEA MEDAL

The other medal is a Crimea medal with the four clasps commemorating Sebastopol, Inkerman, Balaclava and Alma. Incidentally the laying of the hospital foundation stone was the first official act performed by

Queen Victoria after peace in the Crimea. The coins are all dated 1853 and probably formed a "trove" set there were no such sets struck between 1854 and this probably accounts for the presence of coins dated three years earlier than the ceremony.

The coins include a groat (not issued except for Maundy money after 1862), shillings (only struck for special purposes after the First World War) and a crown. The interesting relics were made available for exhibition through the courtesy of the R.M.C.—the Civic Centre is the first non-Berkeley building in which they have been shown.

Southampton has taken a keen interest in the old hospital ever since its erection and it is fitting that the finds (some of them discovered by excavation and repaired in the city) should be on view at the Civic Centre.



The two medals, the Crimea Medal on the right, with its four clasps—"Echo" photos.

Grandson of Gladstone left £330,000

ALBERTSON of William Ernest Gladstone, the statesman, Sir Albert Charles Gladstone, M.B.E., the fifth baronet, of Wobles College, Darnley, who died aged 91, on March 2, left £335,000 in gross. (AG23130 16; net, 6515; £214,715). Sir Albert was formerly a senior partner in Ogilvy, Gossard and Co., East India merchant, a director of the Bank of England from 1924-47. Each baronet of the county of London in 1928, and one of 114 Lancers for the City of London in 1925. He had been a deputy lieutenant for Hampshire since 1919 and Constable of Portsmouth since 1925.

Ludgershall has 3 new councillors

LUDGERSHALL Parish Council had three new members, one of whom is a woman, as the result of Saturday's election. The result was: Elected—J. Challen, 299; P. H. Hale, 282; M. E. Knight, 264; J. K. Phillips, 262; C. M. Hall, 259; F. V. G. Davies, 252; Mrs. E. R. Meehan, 241; H. Stevens, 230; *C. M. Roberts, 187; *K. B. F. Beard, 185; *B. K. Phillips, 175; H. F. England, 161; *F. E. Pugh, 149; *J. A. Anderson, 139; *W. L. Brown, 132. Not elected—H. T. Ault, 131; Miss A. Brown, 131; N. J. van Housdonk, 123; D. O. Stewart, 99; *P. K. Newman, 82. (* Denotes former member.)

SEALS (TELEVISION) LIMITED Spring BARGAIN event

WASHING



LOOK! WASHING MACHINES PRICES SLASHED
 INDEPENDENT AUTOMATIC 1450 72/-
 INDEPENDENT AUTOMATIC 1500 72/-
 GEFRA AUTOMATIC 600 99/-
 A.E.C. AUTOMATIC SOLD 86 99/-
 ENGLISH ELEC. AUTOMATIC 89/-
 ENG. ELEC. REVERSOMATIC 99/-

FANTASTIC VALUE!



THE FAMOUS HOOVER KEYMATIC
 3 WASH PROGRAMMES
 KEY PLATE CONTROL
 OUR PRICE **£111.6.0**
SAVE £22.10
 OUR PRICE **85 GNS**

VIEWING

BUSH 19" ALL STATION
 10 GNS. ALLOWANCE
£72.8.3
 THE MOST YOU PAY IS **58 GNS**



23" MODEL 1490 **£62.67 GNS**
 (surcharge 2/-)

SIMILAR ALLOWANCES ON OTHER MAKES
 19" MODEL 140 **54 GNS**
 23" MODEL 175 **59 GNS**
 (PLUS REVERSOMATIC)

PAM LUXURY TV
 23" station **49.95.0**
SAVE £26.10
 OUR PRICE **69.10 GNS**
 PLUS 27.95 SURCHARGE

CLEANING



CLARENDON Cleaner with all accessories
only 23 GNS
£27.14.11
 OUR PRICE **23 GNS**

COLD COOKING



3cu. ft.
£29.10 GNS
 OUR PRICE **29.10 GNS**

LOOK HUGE DISCOUNTS OFF EVERYTHING!



CLARENDON 4 SPEED STEREO GRAM
£39.10 GNS
 OUR PRICE **69 GNS**

LISTENING

ULTRA 6130 2 Waveband
£24.18.1
SAVE £3.7.1
 OUR PRICE **11 GNS**

FIDELITY 4 SPEED AUTOMATIC RECORD PLAYER
£15.9.8 (SAVE £2.8)
 OUR PRICE **12.1 GNS**

SEWING



BROTHER SHIMMERS DEXIA MODEL 305
 £39.18.0 **SAVE £7**
 OUR PRICE **£32.18.0**

Terrific Offer!

NO DEPOSIT - 9 MONTHS TO PAY
HP - 24 MONTHS TO PAY

A MEMBER OF THE **Rumbelow GROUP** 

57-61 London Rd., Southampton. Tel. 25328 11 Market St., Eastleigh. Tel. Eastleigh 2177
 1b Park St., Shirley, Southampton. Tel. 74845 80 St. Mary St., Southampton. Tel. 24165

AND IN THE PORTSMOUTH AREA

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES

NORTH AND SOUTH TOWORTH

Mrs. Gregory was welcomed to the president, and she gave a very detailed explanation on the resolutions to be put forward at the annual meeting.

MINUTES
 Mrs. Potts presided at the meeting and Mrs. McWilliam, V.O.O. spoke on and clearly presented the resolutions for the NPTWI meeting at the Albert Hall in June.

NORTH BADDELEY
 It was with regret that members had to return to Mrs. P. Burns, who is emigrating to New Zealand in June.

institute's best wishes for a happy future. Bursas thanked members and she hoped to join the WI in New Zealand and thus face a task before institute.

Mrs. James, Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Pollock were thanked for their admirable floral displays at the spring group meeting and congratulated on having been elected second in the competition.

BOLDE
 The last meeting was presided over by the president, Mrs. John Perkins, who announced the receipt of the latest competition, in which members each had 2s. to trade with to see how much she could make out of it.

Mrs. P. Thomas won the prize by raising £15. Mrs. Bird was second with £13.10 and Mrs. Goodhart third with £3. The whole committee raised a net of £17. Mrs. Perkins asked for permission to go into the possibility of having a room built near the dining room at the Memorial Hall for the WI's own use and eating the general interest.

Court tributes to a JP

THE recent death of Miss D. M. Nicholson, JP. of Yaffin, Odiham, Pomeroy, was remembered to with respect by the chairman, Mr. N. V. H. Symons, at Lynton Magistrates' Court.

He recalled that Miss Nicholson went to Lynton to live with her parents in 1916, when she was 14, and lived in the locality nearly 40 years, taking a prominent part in many local activities.

Twenty years ago she went on, she was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace, and in the following year family circumstances forced her to move to Odiham. Her Lynton connection was held in such affection by her that, instead of transferring to the Ringwood Bench, which would have been comparatively close to her, she preferred to make the long journey to Lynton whenever she was called on.

L-driver's three offences

LEARNER driver, Alexander L. Broaden, of Winchester-road, Andover was fined £5 each for three offences, when he appeared at Winchester.

He pleaded "Guilty" to driving without the supervision of a qualified driver, without displaying "L" plates, and without an Excess Licence.



Hear that tiger talk!

FABULOUS

OFFERRRRRR RRRRRRRRR!

This 5-piece stainless steel place setting worth 25/- is yours for 14/6

And this fantastic offer is exclusive! Only users of Esso can have this fine cutlery made from the best British stainless steel. It has a beautiful gloss finish that makes this a setting to grace your table, a classic design that will give pleasure for years. Drive in to your Esso station now and start collecting a whole set.



ASHURST

GRANT BROS.
Lyndhurst Road Garage, Ashurst
Tel. 22712

BLACKFIELD

SMITH & BRAY
Blackfield Service Station, Blackfield
Tel. 2346

BURSLEDON

VICTORIA GARAGE (Bursledon) LTD.
Lowford Hill, Bursledon
Tel. 633

CADNAM

SENIOR SERVICE STATION
(T. L. NAPIER)
Cadnam
Tel. 1393

CHANDLER'S FORD

PERCY HENDY LTD.
(MAIN FORD DEALER)
Hendyford House, Bournemouth Road,
Chandler's Ford
Tel. 2901

PARADE SERVICE STATION
(P. M. MORRISSEY)
Hiltingbury Road, Chandler's Ford
Tel. 1903

H. W. ROWLES LTD.
North End Garage, Chandler's Ford
Tel. 2355

SHORT'S GARAGES
(Chandler's Ford) LTD.
309 Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford
Tel. 2227

SIMPKINS GARAGE LTD.
(ADVERTISING AGENTS)
Horsley Road, Chandler's Ford
Tel. 1832

EASTLEIGH

CHICKENHALL SERVICE STATION
(G. P. NEWTON)
Bishopstoke Road opposite Swimming
Pool, Eastleigh
Tel. Eastleigh 2327

STONEHAM SERVICE STATION
(P. W. BLAXALL)
Southampton Road, Eastleigh
Tel. Eastleigh 2327

FAIR OAK

SUMMERLANDS SERVICE STATION
Metal Garages Ltd.
Winchester Road, Fair Oak
Tel. 235

FAWLEY

HAYWARD'S OF FAWLEY
(C. W. GERTON)
The Garage
Tel. Fawley 237

IPERS BRIDGE

IPERS BRIDGE SERVICE STATION
(A. C. WILLIAMS)
Belstone Road
Tel. Blackfield 3356

LYNDHURST

PAT'S GARAGE (Lyndhurst) LTD.
Romney Road, Lyndhurst
Tel. 3609

NOMANSLAND

NOMANSLAND SERVICE STATION
(O. B. DYER AND SON)
Nomanland, Salisbury
Tel. Salisbury 271

ROMSEY

JACK O'LANTERN'S SERVICE
STATION AND RESTAURANT
(MR and MRS P. J. DUPPEY)
Ringwood Road, Over new Romney
Tel. Over 255

B. A. ROLFE & SONS LTD
Romney
Tel. Romney 1375-6/7

SHEDFIELD

SILVERLAKE GARAGE LTD
Shedfield
Tel. 80629 2329

SOUTHAMPTON

ANDREWS (Shipside Services) LTD.
Brite Retro-Car No. 7 and No. 10 Gates
and Chazem Perry Service Station
Docks, Southampton
Tel. 3899

BITTERNE SERVICE STATION
(W. F. R. BURKEN)
Bursledon Road, Bitterne
(Corner White's Road)
Open 24 hours every day
Tel. 4924

FAIRWAY MOTORS LTD.
151-163 Bitterne Road, Southampton
Tel. 24464/8

FREEMANTLE MAIN SERVICE
STATION
(P. B. LIMBERT)
Paynes Road,
Tel. Southampton 27927

LEN HARFIELD LTD.
Bitterne Park Garage,
Bitterne Park, Southampton.
Tel. 55468

PERCY HENDY LTD.
(MAIN FORD DEALER)
Palmerston Road, South Point,
Southampton.
Tel. 28327

PERCY HENDY LTD.
Bassett Filling Station
Chalton Cross Roads, Bassett,
Southampton.
Tel. 63269

SOUTHAMPTON (cont.)

HIGHFIELD SERVICE STATION
(J. B. KENT)
Highfield Lane, Southampton
Tel. 34569

LORWERS GARAGES LTD
34, Park Street, Shirley
Tel. Southampton 71523

MAYFIELD SERVICE STATION
(G. B. DORNE & SON)
Ainsley Road, Woolston,
Tel. Southampton 49776

MILLBANK SERVICE STATION
(ROY W. HODGEN)
Northam Road,
Tel. Southampton 24556

MOUNT PLEASANT FILLING
STATION
Southampton Oil Supplies Ltd.,
Mount Pleasant Road,
Tel. Southampton 28212

NEW CENTRAL SERVICE STATION
(DORIS A. WANTS)
Western Esplanade,
Tel. Southampton 22009

PRINCE'S SERVICE STATION,
Tanners Brook, Millbrook Road,
Tel. Southampton 72023

ROSS SERVICE STATION
11/12, High Street, opposite Town Quay
Southampton
Tel. 25462

SHOLING MOTORS LTD.
(G. R. DAVISON)
Botary Bay Road, Sholing
Tel. Southampton 41759

SWAYTHLING GARAGE
(K. A. L. HOLLOWAY)
319 Barges Road,
Tel. Southampton 37727

WOODMILL SERVICE STATION
(L. W. REIBELDOERF)
Woodmill Lane,
Tel. Southampton 56483

TOTTEN

RUNBRIDGE SERVICE STATION
(S. W. LOVELAND)
By-Pass
Tel. Totton 2329

TOTTEN SERVICE STATION
(JOHN A. KERNAN),
Ringwood Road,
Tel. Totton 2345

WALTHAM CHASE

ROSEHILL GARAGE
(Waltham Chase) LTD
Waltham Chase
Tel. Bishop's Waltham 2282

WINCHESTER

PITVALE SERVICE STATION
(R. BURGESS)
Pitt, Winchester.
Tel. Winchester 63863



£3,000 EXPEDITION GOING TO ETHIOPIA

Tidworth Lancer band at Soton

MUSIC lovers at Southampton Guildhall had a double helping of pleasure—with one of the country's best military bands doubling up as a make-up choir.

The choir has been an institution in the band of the 18th/20th Queen's Royal Lancers for the last 20 years and their numerous repertoire provided some light relief during an evening of tunes old and new.

The fine reputation of this Tidworth-based band both at home and abroad was demonstrated to the full in a varied selection of music which catered for all tastes.

The band has broadcast frequently and on their last inspection were graded "outstanding" by the Inspector of Army Bands— their second such award in succession.

The trumpeters have appeared many times on television and for the last two years have been featured in the televised sessions of the Royal International Horse Show. The band will again appear at this event in July.

Led by Bandmaster Mr. Derek N. Taylor, they opened with a selection which included the march "Pioneers and the Over the Top" by the Underworld.

A trumpet solo by the youngest member of the band, 16-year-old Brandon Mitchell-Petersen—who was playing solo for only the second time in public—was particularly well received. He played the third movement of Haydn's trumpet concerto.

A THREE-MONTH expedition to Ethiopia is being organised by the university—and it is one of the first of its kind from Southampton.

It will make a general ecological survey of the newly-formed Awash National Park in the Rift Valley, about 80 miles east of Addis Ababa.

The cost of the expedition, which plans to leave Southampton at the beginning of July, is nearly £3,000.

Dr. N. Maclean (34), lecturer in the university's department of zoology, who is chairman of the expedition committee, said: "Not all the money has been found or allocated and the expedition will still be grateful for any money from local firms who want to support it as a Southampton venture."

The University of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, is one of the sponsors of the expedition. The others are the university, Vice-Chancellor Dr. Kenneth Maister and Peter Scott, the naturalist.

The expedition plans to produce a guide book on the fauna and flora of the Awash National Park which would greatly assist the Ethiopian Government in its new plans for conservation.

Leader of the expedition will be C. R. Howley (21), of the department of zoology, who has wide experience in field work and conservation.

The other members are J. Barry (23), department of botany; N. H. Spencer (20), zoology; C. P. Haines (21), zoology; and N. O. J. Abel (21), zoology, who has lived 15 years in Kenya and has a good working knowledge of African game and speaks Swahili.

Four members will travel by air from London to Addis and the

other two will go in advance by ship to Djibouti with a Land Rover and the equipment.

The first two weeks of the expedition will be spent in familiarising members with the work, which is 800 square kilometres in size and with the local systems on which the main survey will be conducted.

The expedition will then study four aspects of the area—botany, ornithology, entomology, and mammalogy.

The chief game warden of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Department, Mr. John Bower, has said the organizers that the expedition's work would be "extremely valuable" and that a thorough zoological survey of the area was urgently needed.

President's work eased
KEITH KIRBY, the university's new Students' Union president, who takes office in June, will be able to enjoy a sabbatical year, thanks to an approach by the union to the University authorities.

Mr. R. M. Drogan, secretary and registrar, said: "This decision followed a most convincing application from the union president, Janet Kaye, which was very well received."

"It will mean a considerable

University and College Notes

By P.M.E.B.

reduction in academic work for the President—but the students were very keen that the year should not be completely unbalanced and that some academic work should be done by the president.

Art teachers exhibit
ONE art teacher at the College of Education is exhibiting paintings and drawings by himself and his wife at Hantsham and another teacher has just finished a one-man exhibition in Peterhead.

Mr. Geoffrey Lindoff, with his wife, Marie Graham, is exhibiting in a special programme of exhibitions at Hantsham at Michelham Priory, Hantsham. And Mr. F. Sanderson, has just finished a one-month exhibition of his abstract work at The Ash Barr, Peterhead. He is heading to Edinburgh in London.

Theatre Work production
THE latest in the College of Education's Theatre Workshop production was this week, on Monday and Tuesday, when they presented N. P. Simpson's "A Boy's Best Friend" at Michelham Priory, Hantsham. Students from both the college and the university took part. The director was John Doherty.

Going to Exeter
MR. M. R. BODER, lecturer in the Faculty of Education, is leaving to take up a post with the Institute of Education at Exeter University.

Mr. Ross, who was responsible for a number of the college's Theatre Workshop productions, will be responsible at Exeter for the development of the in-service course of teachers in Devon.

With the college he has organised a number of courses on creative writing in various parts of the country.

Biology conference
WORSWICK branch of the Institute of Biology is organising a conference tomorrow at Portsmouth College of Technology on "Further Education in Biology in the Wessex Area." It will be introduced by Portsmouth's chief education officer, Mr. B. R. Hall.

Childworth Mather, one of the university's best speakers, will open his garden to the public on May 21 as part of the national garden open scheme on behalf of district nurses.

Professor R. L. Bell, professor of engineering materials, gave his inaugural lecture at the university on May 25. His subject: "Bridging Operations."

The university's Commemoration Day service takes place on May 17 at St. Michael's Church, conducted by the Rev. D. R. Newsham, regius professor of divinity at Cambridge University.

Joint visit to Dorset Downs
MEMBERS of the Southampton and Wiltshire Natural History Societies met at Worth Matravers for a day of nature study.

They split up into three parties—the bird enthusiasts going on to Durlston Head, where they were able to watch fulmar gulls, kittiwake, gullskinner, shags and even a few dolphins.

The botanists, led by Mrs. Yule, went over the downs and the more energetic continued over the cliff tops to Durlston. Those who preferred a more leisurely walk spent longer on the downs and went on to the coast, where the cliffs and some gullies were an added interest to the geologists.

Many botanists found plants which were new to them—the sick rue-leaved saxifrage on a low rock and spongy corolla on the downy lining of particular interest. Other plants seen were the grey-spike meadow and the early purple.

Former Lymington licensee dies
A FENNINGTON near Lymington man, Mr. George William Alexander Cross (64), of Howland Farm, Fennington, died at home.

BREAD BASKET BROOD



THE blackbirds which built a nest in a wire basket used for bread at the rear of an Above Bar store in Southampton are now feeding four babies. This photograph shows the semi-circular brood, taking it easy in the nest while the parents are out foraging for an ever-hungry brood, whose own little "bread baskets" must be kept constantly full.—"Radio" photo.

PLANNING THE PERFECT HOME

A substantial supplement under the above title, of interest to major advertisers, will be appearing in our issue of May 17.

It will be aimed not only at those who are setting up a home for the first time, but also at all who wish to make the most of their present home.

For further information, interested advertisers should please ring: SOUTHAMPTON 27272 (Ext. 269)

HOTEL THIEF NEVER HAD PROBATION

JAMES ROGEO INGLIS (47), formerly employed at a Milford-on-Sea hotel, and now working at an hotel in Beaulieu, was at Lymington placed on probation for three years.

He had pleaded "Guilty" to stealing a handbag and contents, together valued at £2 5s, when visiting the White Horse Inn, Milford, and asked to be taken into consideration the larvae, as a reward of property nearby belonging to his then employer, Francis Green.

At Lymington had that Mrs. Melly Irene, Whittingham, of Ashley Close, Milford, missed her handbag from a shop at the White Horse Inn. The bag was later recovered at Herdly Cliff some some of its contents, including £12 in money and some drugs.

Water lilies, ornament sets and decorative candles, the subject of the offence accused, were sold at the Milford hotel where he was then working.

The magistrate having been given details of previous convictions, Mr. S. C. Hart (presiding) observed: "We find you have never had a term of probation."

A sentence was ordered to repay Mrs. Whittingham the £12, with £1 6d. also, for the missing date.

QUALITY CARS AT PRICES THAT SUIT YOU

1960	MORRIS Mini, red, choice of two	£185
1966	HILLMAN Super Imp, green	£485
1961	CORVAIR 315, grey	£285
1965	MORRIS 1100, black, one owner	£495
1961	HILLMAN Imp, white	£285
1962	HILLMAN Imp, red	£295
1962	VAUXHALL Victor, blue	£330
1961	TRIUMPH Herald Estate, red	£325
1964	SINGER Classic, black, one owner	£475
1964	HILLMAN Imp, green, 20,000 miles, one owner	£445
1965	VAUXHALL Viva, one owner	£425
1964	SUNBEAM Rapier, blue	£535
1966	VAUXHALL VX 4.90, black, one owner, 9,000 miles	£695
1963	SINGER Vogue, white	£435
1963	VAUXHALL Viva	£425
1964	FORD Anglia, blue	£350
1965	RILEY 21, blue	£445
1964	FIAT 1200 Estate, grey	£735
1964	SUNBEAM Alpine Automatic, green, one owner	£585
1964	MORRIS Mini Super, blue	£345

OUR USUAL TOP PRICE FOR YOUR USED CAR IN PART EXCHANGE
WILL SHORT LTD
2-4 ST. CROSS RD., WINCHESTER. Tel. 61855



Got a cold? A medicated hot bath will help. In a very comforting way.

Try Medibath, the new Swiss treatment. "Have a hot bath, it comforts and relaxes you" doctors say when you've a cold. "Inhalo to relieve a stuffy nose" they add. But you couldn't do both things at once until Medibath, this new Swiss treatment.



Medibath is a treatment you can FEEL is doing you good. It's medicated bath essence—you pour it into your bath, and soak. It feels good, it smells good, and it's helping your cold. As you soak you inhale the vapours from 5 soothing oils... eucalyptus, menthol, camphor, rosemary, lavender. You breathe more freely. But it doesn't end there. The Swis combined these 5 soothing oils with benzylaminecinnoline, the modern skin stimulant. This helps ease away aches and pains by improving your circulation—so that you tingles, almost glow, as you step out of the bath and into bed. Again, you can FEEL the treatment doing you good. Have a Medibath. You'll enjoy it one small thing in the minutes of a cold. You'll FEEL it's doing you good. And it is.

At chemist's 1-bath sachet U11 1-bath bottle 4111



Mikado Cafe proprietor Mr. John Norris rides a Baby-kart, one of the amusements on view at the Peter Simper exhibition. —Photo: Wardell, Andover.

THESE JUKE BOXES SHOW A FILM, TOO

JUKE boxes from which one can get not only a favourite pop star singing a number from the current Top Twenty, but a colourful attractive background film to accompany the music, was a feature of an exhibition in Andover last night.

The exhibition was part of a demonstration given by the Peter Simper Organisation of Bath to an invited audience of machine vendors, and local club, cafe and public house representatives, at the Mikado Restaurant, London-street, by invitation of the John Norris Partnership, Ltd.

It included an exclusive trade preview of the "Phono-view"—the juke box with pictures—which is a new concept in phonographs in that the customer has the choice (from 180 selections) of a record, or picture—or both.

Peter Simper Ltd. who import, improve, distribute and maintain amusement machines of all kinds through the South and West are the third biggest organisation of their kind in the country. They

employ over 100 technicians at their headquarters in Milkstreet, Bath, and at Bordon, Hampshire, where they have a depot.

Also in last night's demonstration was a new idea of helping hens to lay bigger and better eggs—by means of a juke box! Basic idea is that of a centrally operated juke box which plays continuously 20 different records and the music is relayed to all the hen houses on the farm. The method was tested recently, with great success, it is claimed, at a farm in Highbridge, Somerset.

When the farmer's wife for the best is kept tired of the current 20 selections the records can be changed. This was found to be better than radio-relayed music as this is too frequently for the best's liking interpreted with talking. Apparently the chickens do not lay so well during Mrs. Day's Diary, or even The Archers!

Forest loses a familiar figure

A VERY familiar figure has been lost to the New Forest and the cattle markets of Salisbury and Ringwood by the death at his home of Mr. Richard Keeping, of Main-road, East Boldre at the age of 89.

Until last November he had never known a day's illness. Then he had an operation from which he never completely recovered.

Mr. Keeping was a market grower and cattle breeder and a man of that fine old-fashioned independence which sought nothing which he did not earn. It was his proud boast on his golden wedding day in 1941: "I have never had a week's wages in my life."

Mr. Keeping was born in a house next to the East End Congregational Church in which he was married and in which his funeral service was held. He had never left the district and the only time he was away from 2.5 acres from odd days off, was when he went to London for a week.

The son of a market gardener and smallholder, Mr. Keeping started working life as a postman waiting his round for five shillings a week which he always gave to his father. He also assisted his father until he started out on his own account.

Until 1947 he sold his produce in Lymington market and in connection with his pony and cattle breeding he was often seen as a seller at Headles Road pony sales.

Mr. Keeping is survived by his widow, two sons, Mr. Richard Keeping, of Helmore-road, Lymington, and Mr. Isaac Keeping, of Viceroy-gate, Boscote, and a married sister, Mrs. Iris Will, who lives in Bristol.

Following the funeral service interment took place in East Boldre church-yard.



MR. AND MRS. L. K. SALMON —Photo: Bitterne Photographs.

Spanish-style gown for Bursledon bride

A SPANISH-STYLE gown was the choice of Miss Denise Audrey Coupland for her marriage to Mr. Leonard Keith Salmon, at St. Leonard's Church, Bursledon.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Salmon, of Milton-Drive, Parkham. The bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Coupland, live in Chamberlayne-road, Bursledon, Bursledon.

With her full-length dress of tulle lace and tulle the bride wore a long tulle veil held in place by a rhinestone coronet and she carried deep pink roses and white stephanotis.

Given away by her father, the bride was attended by Miss Josephine Mallett, aged ten, chief bridesmaid, and Miss Ann Gervel, aged four. They wore full-length dresses of pale blue slipper satin. The chief bridesmaid carried a white ribbon with a ribbon and spray of deep pink roses, and the younger one carried a basket of the same roses.

Best man was Mr. David Light and the service was conducted by the Rev. D. H. Payne. After a reception for 80 guests at The Reading Rooms Hotel, Old Melbury, Bursledon, the couple left for their honeymoon at a secret destination.

New showroom

A new electricity showroom is to be opened shortly in Bitterne, Southampton, members of the British branch of the Electrical Association for Women were told at their monthly meeting by Mr. E. Annual, Assistant Development Engineer.

Mr. E. C. Wainwright, assistant chief inspector of electric works and chief also gave a talk.

Married at Swanmore

THE wedding took place at St. Barnabas Church, Swanmore, of Miss Sarah Jane Elliott, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John F. W. Elliott, Waction Cottage, Hampton Hill, Swanmore, and Percy O'Brien, Dunsford Park, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Fish, Hope Cottage, Bampton End, Haslemere, Surrey.

The service was conducted by the vicar, the Rev. G. R. Peterson, M.B.E.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length tulle gown with long slightly bellied sleeves, crystal tucks holding a long white cat veil and (tulle) tulle train and carried a bouquet of pink and red carnations and roses.

There were three bridesmaids and a page boy. Miss Nancy Elliott, sister of the bride and Miss Marilyn Fish, sister of the bridegroom, wore turquoise brocade long dresses with white bow head-dresses and carried bouquets of pink and white carnations. Miss Penny Elliott, sister of the bride, wore a long rose-pink dress with a circular collar and carried a bouquet of pink and white carnations.

Master Andrew Elliott, brother of the bride, wore a white satin blouse, royal blue velvet trousers and black patent leather shoes with silver buckles.

The best man was Percy O'Brien, Clavin, Bursledon.

The reception at the bride's home was attended by 180 guests. The honeymoon is being spent in the Channel Islands.

PLACED ON PROBATION

A 18-YEAR-OLD blonde mother of two children who romped gaily between Southampton and London on cheap day tickets was at Highgate Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, placed on probation for soliciting in Kensington-road, Pinbury Park, North London.

She was Christine Ann Jones, of Kentwood-road, Southampton, who was said to have been soliciting passing motorists.

She was stated to have told a probation officer that she wanted to give up her way of life but she did not receive maintenance for a five-month-old baby living with her, and was paying £3 10s. a week to have it looked after and £3 10s. rent. Her other child was with relatives in Cardiff.

A similar conviction in January, when she was conditionally discharged for a year, was recorded. The magistrates' road repairs and she had nothing to say.



MR. KEEPING

Peter Simper

..... links past EXPERIENCE with new ideas and VERSATILITY—FOR YOUR LEISURE

MAIN DISTRIBUTORS OF

- ★ COIN OPERATED PHONOGRAPHS (FOR THE MOST DISCERNING PEOPLE)
- ★ GAMING EQUIPMENT AND AMUSEMENTS WITH PRIZES
- ★ BACKGROUND MUSIC SYSTEMS (EVEN CHICKENS PREFER OUR UNITS)
- ★ AMUSEMENT MACHINES

AND THE FABULOUS *PhonoVue* COLOURFUL FILMS WITH RECORDS

PETER SIMPER ORGANISATION

PETER SIMPER
MILK STREET, BATH
SOMERSET
Tel. BATH 64594

or

JOHN HARDY
HIGH STREET, BORDON
HANTS.
Tel. BORDON 2051

5 HIGH STREET · SOUTHAMPTON

Print Design Services
(SOUTHAMPTON) LIMITED



Telephone Southampton 24052 STD 0503

PRESS RELEASE

The Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley

This Hospital which has been a local topic of conversation whether or not it should be pulled down, has now been finally set decision of the Ministry of Public Building and Works to demolish with the exception of the Royal Chapel and part of the Central Tower develop the area for a recreational open space.

The contract for the demolition of the Hospital has been awarded to Messrs. William Perry's Demolition & Plant Hire (Southampton) Limited, together with Southern Sand & Ballast Limited who will be responsible for clearing the site. Although this must be one of the largest demolition jobs ever undertaken, in all respects other than sheer size it is just routine.

William Perry's Demolition & Plant Hire (Southampton) Limited are experts at this type of work and have been engaged in similar projects for the past eleven years. Amongst their many contracts, they have been responsible for the demolition of The Old Victoria Rooms, Southampton and H.M. Prison, Portland, Dorset.

Southern Sand & Ballast Limited have worked in association with William Perry's Demolition & Plant Hire in the disposal of raw materials in a number of previous contracts and are pleased to have the opportunity of working with them once again on this occasion, and will be disposing of the Rubble, Portland stone and Timber through their long established sales organisation. The brickwork will be knocked down and broken up, and then taken away to be used in road foundations and similar uses. All metalwork will be cleaned and sorted, before going off to the foundries to be melted down and used again.

5 HIGH STREET · SOUTHAMPTON

Print Design Services
(SOUTHAMPTON) LIMITED



Telephone Southampton 24052 STD OS03

PRESS RELEASE

and used again./

Thus next year's new car may contain traces of Netley Hospital. And next year's new road may have some of Netley Hospital in its foundations. Slates, so far as they can be removed intact from the roof without breaking, will be used again. Timber, hundreds of tons of it, will all be sorted. A lot will be so full of nails and holes that it will be no use except for firewood. At the other extreme there are some beams fully 12" x 6" (quite well seasoned by now!) These will be sawn up with as little waste as possible, and will find their way into new houses and so on for another hundred years of useful life. With the decorative stonework - Portland stone and Welsh granite there is an element of speculative risk, for to break it out cleanly, lower it to the ground and store it, without damage, will be quite expensive - the cost of the crane alone, for this type of work, may be £2 per hour, and as much again for the wages (and, of course, Labour tax) of the several men required to work high up on the walls and on the ground. Having gone to all this expense, will any buyers appear who are willing to pay the cost of recovering this stonework? Perry's and Southern Sand hope so, partly because this is what they are in business for. But partly also because it would be a shame if some of it cannot continue to give pleasure to people, either in their private gardens or in public places. Every effort is being made to inform Local Authorities, Architects and others of the possibilities of this stonework while it is still available.

This combined effort is no mean task! For in the eighteen months that the contract has to be completed in, it is expected that the quantities of materials to be removed from the site will exceed a $\frac{1}{4}$ million cubic yards.

5 HIGH STREET · SOUTHAMPTON

Print Design Services
(SOUTHAMPTON) LIMITED



Telephone Southampton 24052 STD OS03

PRESS RELEASE

$\frac{1}{4}$ million cubic yards./

The work is due to commence on Friday, 16th September, 1966 at 10.30 a.m., which is 110 years since Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone to England's first Military Hospital; claimed to have been in its time the largest Military Hospital in the World.

The Hospital originally designed by Mr. Mennie, architect of the War Department was to accommodate "the sick and invalid soldiers of Queen Victoria's Army", stands majestically in 227 acres of land on the eastern side of Southampton Water, and has been a well known land mark for thousands who have sailed from Southampton. The building which has a frontage of a quarter of a mile, with a centre block surmounted by a dome, and two wings, all three storeys high. The corridors which run the full length of the building are reputed to be the longest in the World. It is of red brick, faced with Portland stone, and with plinths of Welsh granite all along the basement. Portland stone of such perfect texture cannot be quarried to-day.

From the very beginning the Hospital was severely criticised by Florence Nightingale who had campaigned so fervently for a hospital after her experiences in the Crimea War. She was deeply concerned that the building bore no relation to the recommendations that she had persistently sent to the War Office. She immediately foresaw that the plans were utterly irrelevant to the function of a hospital, for they took no account for the need for sunlight - the wards were dark and overlooked the back where the kitchens and coal heaps were situated, circulation of fresh air or provision for isolation units. It appeared to her that an imposing facade to Southampton Water be more important than a functional hospital. However, the construction of the Hospital was proceeded with and ever since has proved to be an enormous drain of Government finances.

5 HIGH STREET · SOUTHAMPTON

Print Design Services
(SOUTHAMPTON) LIMITED



Telephone Southampton 24052 STD OS03

PRESS RELEASE

drain of Government finances./

The wounded from every theatre of war in which Britain has been engaged since the Crimea have been tended at Netley Hospital and the last British Army patients arrived in 1943. The Hospital was then handed over to the U.S. Army in 1944, who were reputed to have solved the problem of the long corridors by driving their jeeps along them! Netley Hospital was returned to the British Army in 1945 and was next in a topic of controversy in 1956 when General Sir George Erskine G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command said that the main building was a shocker, uneconomic and would be better to be pulled down.

Since 1958, the main building has stood empty and has rapidly deteriorated through neglect and disrepair, this being further aggravated in 1963 when a severe fire broke out in the centre block sweeping through the heavily timbered interior.

That the Hospital has to come down is sad, but the Ministry has made the decision so it has to be. However, some of the craftsmanship of a century ago will be preserved to delight the eye of future generations. All that remains now is for the two contractors to move in and clear this White Elephant at Netley and make the foreshore available for Hampshire County Council to develop it as park land for the pleasure of everyone living or visiting this part of Hampshire.

Caption for photograph:

Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, showing centre block and part of the west wing.

The White House,
The Common,
Cranleigh, Surrey.

4th September, 1973

Miss Ann Rundle,
Northgate Cottage,
1, Barrells Down Road,
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

Dear Miss Rundle,

I know I acknowledged your letter of 14th July and the enclosures by post-card. Please forgive me for being rather longer than I anticipated in writing you properly and returning the material. However, now I do thank you very much indeed for all the trouble you took looking out those most helpful newspaper cuttings about Netley and for answering my queries. I was particularly glad to know when the cemetery was consecrated - and for the sentence of Consecration. That explains the lack of graves prior to that date. I suppose the patients of the Boer War who died at Netley were buried elsewhere.

I have made notes of the cuttings and the Press Release. They absolutely confirm my understanding that Florence Nightingale did not approve of the hospital - I have heard and even seen it written that ~~she~~ she planned it herself! Here are all the papers back again, with, as I say, my most grateful thanks.

The flood I mentioned in my last letter happened during that very cold winter of ten years ago - burst pipes. The fire was also in 1963. I don't think it's really very important for me to know which happened first, but I suspect it was the flood.

At some point I was told that all QAs started off at Netley. Do you agree that this was not so, even in the early days? The Army Nursing Service nurses trained there, but did the QAIMNS all do so at the beginning? Do you happen to know? Sorry to ask you yet another question. Don't worry if you don't know the answer off-hand.

Yours sincerely,

Christ Wood

Mrs. Herbert Wood

ISSUED JOINTLY BY
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS
and
ARMY PUBLIC RELATIONS ALDERSHOT

NEWS RELEASE

HQ Aldershot District,
Steele's Road,
Aldershot, Hants.

Tel: Aldershot 24431
Exts 3124 & 3128

1st December, 1966.

News Editor
Pictures Editor

WHAT'S UNDER THE STONE?

LIFTING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE
ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL, NETLEY, HANTS

CEREMONY ON WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER AT 2.30pm

The demolition of that massive Southampton landmark, the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, has reached the stage when the foundation stone will be uncovered and lifted. It is 110 years since Queen Victoria, accompanied by Prince Albert came ashore from the Royal Yacht and on 19th May, 1856 laid the foundation stone of the immense building.

The "Illustrated London News" said at the time, "The commanding engineer presented to Her Majesty plans of the building. Her Majesty, having signified her approval of them, they were placed in the copper box prepared for the purpose, together with the coins, medals and cross and the vellum document recording the event."

A ceremony will be held on Wednesday, 7th December at 2.30 pm at the Hospital, when the foundation stone will be lifted by Mr. PERRY, the demolition contractor and any historical items uncovered will be presented by the Officer Commanding, Colonel J.F.D. MURPHY to the Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Major-General A. SACHS. This will mark the end of a chapter in the history of the RAMC and QARANC.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Southampton are expected to be present and the guest list includes the names of twelve generals, prominent among them being Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Drew, Director General of Army Medical Services, Major-General W.B.F. Brennan, Deputy Director of Medical Services, Southern Command and Major-General C.H. Stainforth, GOC Aldershot District.

Surgeon Rear Admiral E.B. Bradbury, commanding the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, will be there, and the Army's Matron-in-Chief, Brigadier Dame Margot Turner will also be present.

Representing the Ministry of Public Building and Works will be Mr. A.G. Benney and Mr. D.H.O. Harris of Bournemouth.

The ceremony will be followed by a display of historical items relevant to the foundation of the hospital by Queen Victoria. Both the ceremony and the display are open to the public.

/FACILITY

(from Paul Brothers' Guide to Southampton 1889)

WINDMILL

. . . . To the right of the Hospital, close to the water, a little building like a windmill can be seen. It is, in fact, a windmill, and it is intended to force sea-water into the large swimming bath in the central block., . . .

SWIMMING BATH
AND WINDMILL

Unsatisfactory

—
Steam engine replaced by a
site in a house on the same
(The boat called horse).

Behind the Museum is the Garrison Theatre. Originally it was an open space in which was situated a large swimming bath, filled with sea water pumped by means of an engine driven by a windmill on the beach. According to the documents the system was most unsatisfactory and the windmill was replaced by a steam engine on the same site, the remains of whose house are still to be seen and known to this day as the "boat house".

During the past two years the theatre has been brought up-to-date, and it is now, in several respects, more modern and more workable than some of the commercial theatres. Where less than a dozen lamps of small candle-power constituted the footlights, to-day there are three sets of colours, floodlights, spotlights, dimmers, projectors and flickers; in fact everything to perfect the production of a modern play exists; there are new flats and the flies are properly lighted; there is also an adequate supply of stage furniture of almost every description. Changes have been made in the auditorium too, the seating is more comfortable. Near the roof is a control box from which telephonic communication can be made with the stage operators and the lighting effects adjusted.

In the winter season the theatre is particularly active in providing amusement for the patients, staff and married families by amateur entertainers, Y.M.C.A., N.A.A.F.I., and companies from the Southampton theatres.

GARRISON
THEATRE

Death of the biggest white elephant in the world

IT was, if nothing else, imposing. In the spring, when you saw it through a pale curtain of budding trees, and pale sunshine sparkled away the murk of Southampton Water, it had the appearance of a dreamy, magical palace of the East — somehow gone wrong. And that was the real trouble with the Royal Victoria Military Hospital, Netley: it had gone wrong.

It went wrong before Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone 110 years ago, and, with all the weight of its ornate, sprawling magnificence it stayed wrong.

The hospital was conceived from the squalid and inglorious fiasco of the Crimean war, in which, as the German commander in the First World War, Falkenhayn, noted of his own war, British troops fought like lions but were, unfortunately, led by donkeys.

There, on that Russian peninsula, for no other reason than the trivial, men endured every hardship, privation and agony, ancient and modern.

What aid and comfort the sick and wounded received came largely at the instigation, and often at the hands, of Florence Nightingale. It was she who, sharp incisive and wholly dedicated, slashed at official sloth and incompetence, self-interest,

muddle, criminal negligence and complacency with such fury that things began, slowly, to improve.

In the aftermath of that disastrous episode reforms were made. (The paucity of these was not to be exposed until that later and greater disaster in 1914.)

The story of the rise and fall of the hospital is well-known: Florence Nightingale, drawing upon personal experience, flooded the War Office with recommendations. They were, to her lifelong and bitter regret, largely ignored. Mennie, the War Department architect, seized the opportunity to create what was the longest building in Europe — its corridors were over a quarter of a mile long — on a scale of ostentation and useless elaboration never since surpassed.

Florence Nightingale's vision of a light, airy, cheerful centre of healing was buried under countless tons of masonry: for while the long, bright, sunlit corridors swept like Roman roads the whole southern length of the building, the wards looked out over the sunless confines of coal heaps and kitchens at the back. In a place of boundless fresh air, there was little for those who needed it: there was no provision, even for isolation units.

Florence Nightingale's scathing criticism was re-echoed for 100 years, right down to the sensible utterance of General Sir George Erskine who, as G.O.C.-in-C, Southern Command, described the building in 1956 as a 'shocker', a drain on resources, and better demolished.

Like the Victorian age from which it sprang, it had a certain grandeur: its great domed centre block and wings, all faced with marvellous Portland stone of a texture which will never again be quarried, its fine red brick, its great quarter-mile run of Welsh granite plinths along the basement, its sheer majesty as it stood in its lovely 230 acre grounds — all these stir a passing regret at its passing.

But its pretentiousness, its disregard of human needs, made it a mocking, spurious gesture.

The wounded came to Netley from every theatre of war in the past 100 years: from Flanders and India, from Burma, the Mediterranean, the Sudan, from Egypt and Italy. Then, in 1943, the hospital was turned over to the Americans. What they thought of it is not recorded: it is reliably stated, however, that they overcame the problems of internal dimensions by introducing a kind

of bus service of jeeps along its corridors.

Handed back to the British Army in 1945, it slid into its last decline: occasionally it figured in the news, as during a bizarre episode in which one of Britain's first pop idols found himself in the Army psychiatric unit there.

But the die, at last, was cast: it was to come down. Some people, horrified at the sheer waste of such a monumental amount of good building, sought various purposes to which it could be put: a great, gambling and holiday centre; a university; training centre for the disabled; a national convalescent home; an international school for seafarers. To no avail: that which had been born a white elephant was too old and set in its ways to change.

Since 1958 the main building has stood empty and neglected, rapidly deteriorating, desolate and quiet apart from the raucous

shouts and mating calls of bands of youthful marauders. In 1963 fire swept through the heavily timbered interior of the centre block.

If Netley Hospital was one of the greatest construction projects of the 19th century, so it is one of the biggest demolition jobs of the 20th. William Perry's Demolition and Plant Hire Ltd., of Southampton were awarded the contract, with Southern Sand and Ballast Ltd. responsible for clearing the site. All will come down, with the exception of the Royal Chapel and part of the Central Tower.

Perry's bring to the task knowledge won from the demolition of equally well-constructed buildings, among them Portland Prison.

There is little that can be done with the brickwork: this will be broken up and carted off for road foundations and the like. Metalwork will be cleaned and sorted and

sent off to foundries for re-use. Thus, in a year or so, new cars containing traces of hospital metal may well be driving over roads built on foundations made from the old hospital . . .

There are hundreds of tons of timber to be sorted: a great deal will be fit only for firewood, but there is other — including fine beams 12 inches by six inches — which will be carefully cut out with as little waste as possible, and find their way to new uses, perhaps even in new homes.

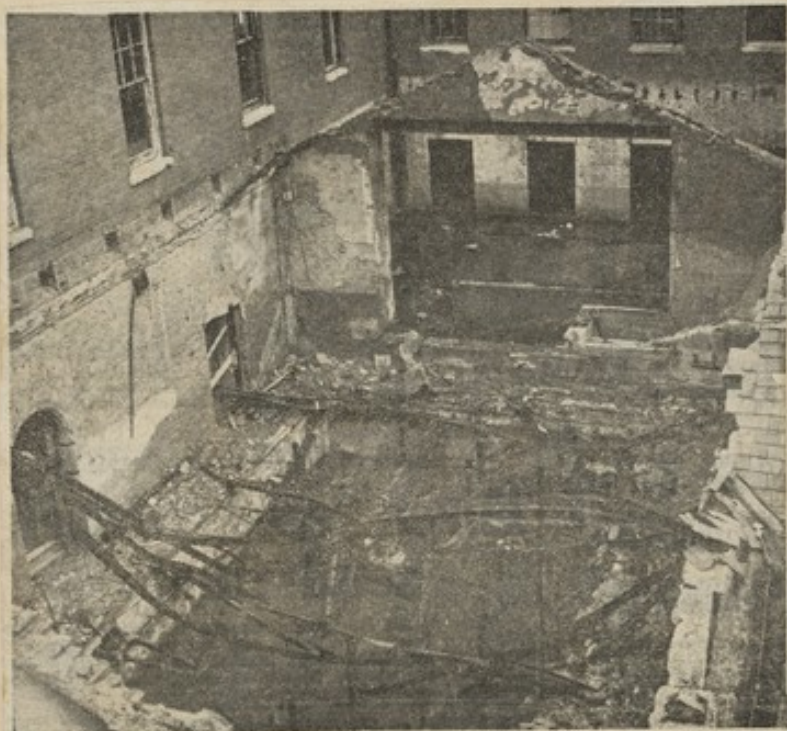
The decorative stonework poses problems. To break it out cleanly, lower it to the ground and store it, all without damage, is a costly business. A crane for the job costs £2 an hour, besides high labour costs. After all this, will people want it? Both contractors hope so, not only because this is the purpose of their business, but also because they feel quite sincerely, that there is a great deal of fine stonework in the building which could give pleasure for years to come in private gardens and public places.

It will take 18 months to complete the job: there could well be something like 50,000 lorry loads and more to remove from the site.

The area will be developed as a recreational open space. The fact that this pleasant spot has become available after 100 years of 'sterilisation' presents a unique challenge and opportunity. With its access to the seashore, its size and its position in a region increasingly under pressure for breathing and pleasure space, it could make an exciting and important contribution to the life of the area. Let us hope that, unlike the hospital it supersedes, the project does not fall victim of unimaginative hubbub, or wishy-washy 'temporary' schemes which would leave these vital acres open to the next south Hampshire land-grab.

Nov 66
Hampshire Magazine

A MONUMENT TO VANITY



A swimming pool-cum-theatre, which was razed by fire recently, is a reminder of the hospital's heyday.



A memorial to the medical staff who fell in the Crimea stands in the grounds of Netley Hospital, which was built as a result of the horrifying conditions that the wounded suffered in that campaign.



The clock tower overlooks the hospital's own railway station.

6255.

6253.

Fate is still unknown

(Continued from Page 20)

From the outside, the old hospital still looks magnificent and awe-inspiring. It represents the best of the craftsmanship of its time.

Broken glass

Inside, however, broken glass covers the floors, paint is peeling from the walls, ornate staircases have lost their majesty, and a musty smell hangs in the air.

Controversy surrounds the building now as it did when it was first built.

The Ministry of Public Building and Works says that its fate is still under consideration, but general opinion has it that it will be pulled down.

It is estimated that it would cost £800,000 to bring it into a state of repair.

Even now, however, there is a move to preserve it. Other suggested plans have been to replace it with a sports centre, a marina, or a holiday camp.

The hospital, now in its death throes, is attracting more attention and affection than ever before.

R. V. Hospital

I HAVE read with interest the correspondence in connection with the above and think with the existence of the Fawley Refinery so near and to the usual windward side that the site would be most unsuitable for use as another Hospital or for residential purposes and it looks very much as if the waterside is soon to be given over to commercial purposes: Another refinery or Docks.

It is of course now too late but if a few years back when the University was being put up such an opportunity had occurred, it would have made an ideal site and our city would have had something to be proud of: The buildings forming its frontage could have been adapted and the whole retained as a screen to any more modern concrete blocks deemed essential.

I shall watch with interest for any further news. — **NETLEY NAPIER BROWN.** (Bursledon, Godshill, Fordingbridge.)

SOUTHERN EVENING ECHO, Thurs., March 10, 1966.

RV Hospital

THE story I understood about the R.V.H. was that the building was designed for Bombay and that somehow the plans for Netley and India were confused.

Surely this must be the explanation for the long draughty corridors, the wards facing the wrong way and even the appearance of the hospital. — **JOCELYN SONDERSKÖV** (Mrs.) (Kobe, Hamble-lane, Hamble.)

Memorial to the dead

Thanks to Mrs. Neal in opening this very interesting correspondence and may I come back to relating to my previous letter concerning R.V. Hospital and the building of a modern hospital.

During the 1914-1918 war this hospital with addition of Red Cross huts at the back had 4,000 patients. Hundreds died, probably thousands.

Surely whatever authority take over should take this into account as in my opinion this land should be utilised in memory of those who died and a new hospital would be the appropriate building otherwise we will probably have a continuation of Weston Shore with its unsightly skyscrapers on this beautiful piece of land.

I understand the Garrison Church is being retained so we shall still have something to remember to this ill-fated building. — **H. J. SUTTON.** (58, Hunt-avenue, Netley Abbey).

SOUTHERN EVENING ECHO, Friday, March 11, 1966.

education! In our training colleges could not a little time be

ELSPETH K. PEARCE.
Redcar, Yorks.

Historic Service Hospital Those Who Did Not Rob Trains

Chapel to be Preserved A Comparison of Lives

Sir—Much publicity has been given in recent weeks to the decision to demolish the old building of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, in Hampshire.

The knowledge that the Royal Chapel will be fully preserved should reassure the Rev. E. H. Piffant, who expressed his deep concern (Feb. 3) and to the many others who hold "Netley" in affectionate esteem.

Indeed many valuable and historical pieces, salvaged from the old hospital building now under sentence, have been presented to the museum of the Royal Army Medical Corps or have been incorporated in the newer building which will continue as a Service hospital.

It is only human to feel sadness at the passing of such a great old hospital, which for over a century inspired some of the most distinguished doctors of the Army Medical Services. But those who value such a heritage may take pride in the knowledge that today at Netley these high traditions in medicine and nursing sustain the new and forward-looking Service Psychiatric Centre, in which both the Army and the Royal Navy have joined to work together.

Yours faithfully,

DESMOND MURPHY,

Col.,
Officer Commanding,
Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

VENICE CATS

From the Mayor of Venice

Sir—In a recent report I am quoted as having said that the

Sir—I am an elderly woman living in a rest home (for which I am very thankful) and am amused to find how closely our lives resemble those of the Train Robbers.

The following are a few of the points, about which I gather the prisoners complain:

There are but four persons with whom we can communicate freely day by day. The prisoners appear to grow tired of each others' faces; we are neither young nor beautiful.

There is little to do but to read, write, study a language or do needlework. For the last the men are paid. We are not.

Lights are out, there as here, at 10 p.m.

Exercise is limited in their case to a "stroll of about 50 yards," but would not half-an-hour's loosening up per day in such a relaxation as leap-frog be good for both their minds and bodies? Unfortunately I have to avoid even going down the stairs!

We are detained for a long period. To the four of us here this will be for life, and for one already 100 years old may well reach 20 years. There is no remission for good conduct.

May I now mention matters in which the prisoners definitely score over us?

They are provided with a recreation room of considerable size in which they may play table tennis and presumably other less strenuous games.

Television is available four times a week.

Clothes are provided. These

THE END OF A HOSPITAL

IN the House of Commons, Mr. David Price asked the Secretary of State for Defence what he proposed to do with the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, when it ceased to be required by Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Reynolds: Its main block is to be demolished; when the psychiatric wing has been re-provided elsewhere, the hospital will be disposed of in the normal way.

SOUTHERN EVENING ECHO, Friday, March 11, 1966.

MAJOR MAKES A BID FOR THE HOSPITAL...

"Echo" Staff Reporter

A CHEQUE for £100 will arrive at the Ministry of Defence during the Easter weekend. It is intended as a part-deposit for the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

Retired Army Major Owen George, of Oakmoor, near Botley, wants to buy the 189-year-old building and convert it into 100 flats and a geriatric hospital.

Major George is prepared to bid up to £20,000 for the historic hospital which the Ministry of Works intends to demolish.

"It will provide homes for people who are desperately in need of them," Major George told me today. "I have already received two applications from families who are being kicked out of their present slum homes because the wives are pregnant."

The major admits he has never seen the building. "But it is ridiculous and a terrible waste to suggest that the hospital should be pulled down," he said. "To demolish it would be criminal."

"Dilapidated it might be, but the framework is undoubtedly sound. The ceilings are so high that new floors could be added."

"FOR A SONG"

"I have already a considerable supply of materials," said Major George, who describes himself as a property owner. "It would not cost the small fortune to put right everyone seems to think. You could turn it into something worthwhile for a mere song."

Major George contacted the Ministry of Defence when he decided to buy Netley Hospital. He was referred to the Ministry of Works and Public Buildings but handed back to the Lands Department of the Ministry of Defence at Burbiton.

"My application to buy the hospital was noted and I was

promised that it would be brought to the notice of the hierarchy. I am still waiting for a reply but in the meantime will keep on at them," he said.

The Major added that the £100 part-deposit was intended as proof that he was serious in his proposals.

DOCTOR'S VIEW

Major George, who is 68, said an experienced doctor had told him the building—or part of it—would be ideal as a geriatric hospital.

Oakmoor, Major George's country mansion home near Botley, has already been turned into a miniature of what he intends for Netley.

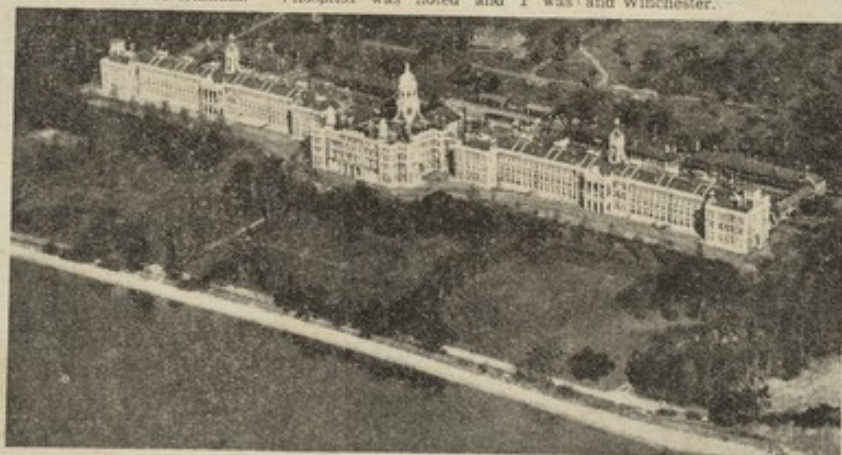
"I have converted part of the house into 20 flats and have already let 14 to 15 of them at an average of £4 a week," he said. "There is still room for another ten, three to four bedroomed ones."

The Major had even more ambitious plans for the grounds of Oakmoor. "I wanted to build a number of old people's bungalows and donate them to the Eastleigh Lions Club," he said. "But the planning authorities turned it down."

FOR DAUGHTER

The mansion was built at the turn of the century for a daughter of a whisky millionaire who married a naval captain.

Major George began working in the insurance business but joined the Army in the First World War and retired in 1946. He owns other property in the Isle of Wight and Winchester.



A 1966 air view of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

—Photo: Patience, Southampton.

◆ Tom Bargate's TOPICS OF THE HOUR ◆
As the great hospital starts its fall



The Victoria Cross.

They wait for what lies down below

AS DEMOLITION WORKMEN smash their way through the sturdy walls of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley their progress will be closely watched by those interested in the history of medals.

For under the foundation stone, laid by Queen Victoria in May, 1856, may be found the original Victoria Cross. It is believed by some that the cross is inside a copper casket, along with the original drawings of the buildings and gold coins of the Realm.

The Victoria Cross award was created by Royal Warrant four months prior to the foundation laying ceremony. It is thought that the one beneath the stone is the prototype.

But though demolition officially began yesterday, those interested in the stone's secret will have to curb their impatience for a little while. It will be at least a year and probably is months before the demolition hammer nears the stone, which is in the wall of the central block.

Whatever is found underneath the stone will become the property of the Army, and will probably find a resting place in a museum.

There is, however, another historical link between the Victoria Cross and the hospital of which there is no doubt. It was there, in the twilight of her years, that Queen Victoria made her last personal presentations of the cross.

It is said that she visited the hospital to decorate with the coveted medal of valour two wounded soldiers.

Yesterday at the hospital, the talk was mainly about more recent associations with the building.

Col. Desmond Murphy, who commands the newer combined Army and Royal Navy hospital nearby, told me: "I feel very sad. The Royal Victoria was the first post I had in the Army, 27 years ago. Some of the best work in the Royal Army Medical Corps was done in the old place, and some famous men did their research there.

"It was the principal Army hospital for invalids from overseas' commands, particularly India.

He added that he was pleased the empty building recently ceased to be his responsibility. "There were too many adventurous gangs of teenagers roaming inside the place at weekends."

Also full of nostalgia were Lieut. Col. M. A. Thompson, matron of the nearby hospital, and her assistant, Major M. H. Rundle—both of whom wore those splendid grey and red uniforms of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Maj. Rundle, who joined the QAs in 1942, served on hospital ships that came into Southampton. "As we came up Southampton Water the Royal Victoria was always eagerly looked for," she said. "The first bit of the hospital we saw was the big iron cross on the dome."

Even the man in charge of demolition, Mr. Bill Perry, had room for sentiment. "When you walk through the corridors and start thinking of the number of wounded soldiers who have been cared for in the place it does something to you."

A colleague of Mr. Perry's Mr. John Day, who had been demolishing buildings for 20 years, looked at the majestic lines of the old place and confided: "You know, I still feel a vandal when I knock down a building."

But business and sentiment don't mix, and Mr. Perry and his men have a job to do—a job

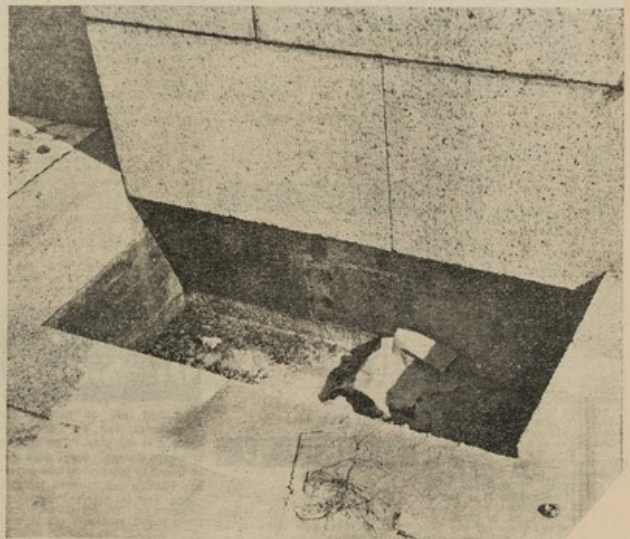
of magnitude they are not likely ever to encounter again.

One structure that will not fall to the demolition hammer will be the Royal Chapel, attached to the hospital's central tower section. The chapel contains many memorials to Royal Army Medical Corps officers who helped nurse the British "Tommy" since the Crimean War.

"The Army have asked that the chapel be retained, but we are not yet sure to what use the chapel will be put," a Ministry of Works spokesman tells me.

Also to be rescued by the Army are: two weather-vanes, a Royal Coat of Arms in stone, a pair of wrought-iron gates with the Royal Coat of Arms, bells from the clock-tower, some sculptured heads on the front of the building, a cross from the tower, and the foundation stone laid by Queen Victoria in May, 1856.

Three souvenirs of the old place have not yet been claimed by anybody...two ghosts of Crimean soldiers and one of a Crimean nurse have been walking the corridors for years.



Somewhere down there, under massive blocks of granite, is the foundation. What will they find beneath it?—"Echo" photo.

The work at Netley goes on



DEMOLITION work on the west wing of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley is well under way although most of the building is still intact.—
Photo: A. McIntyre.