

Lieut. A. A. Page has joined us.

Quite a shake-up has taken place among the N.C.O.s, and a number of new chevrons have been given out.

We like the way the "best" Field Company pat themselves on the back, but in our humble opinion they still have to learn a little about "Turning Over," for one thing.

Not so long ago, one of the Sappers received a parcel from home. A tin of white looking powder was among the contents. Not knowing what it was for, he passed it on for remarks. Finally, by common consent, it was proclaimed "Klim," and straightway the owner put some in his coffee and shared it with a chum. The coffee seemed quite natural, and the incident was forgotten. Some time later a letter arrived, explaining that the powder had been to kill insects. No after-effects have yet been experienced.

All ranks attended the concert party given us by "The Dumbells," and thoroughly enjoyed the performance. The insinuating songs about some of the officers were greatly applauded by all who were not immediately concerned. Our Divisional concert party certainly are very good indeed.

* * *

Major Robinson's Company.

The Major has been running things lately, while Captain D. J. Miller looked after us; everything was fine, and we all tried to behave ourselves.

Sergt. A. L. Wilson is now wearing out shoeleather at a South Coast watering place. "Pip, pip," come back soon.

C.Q.M.S. Murry has been awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

"Red" Taylor joined the benedicts while on leave in Blighty. I believe he has some followers in the faith.

* * *

Lieut.-Colonel Houliston's Division.

Place: Forward area. Occasion: Practice "Stand to."

A famous engineer subaltern "Ack ack pip," reporting to Brigadier, feeling very warlike—

"70 rifles all present and correct, sir." "Rifles be damned; you stand by to carry shovels to the front line." Such is the use of the sapper in the eyes of a brigadier; but we carry rifles, nevertheless, and may need them these days.

Who said the permanent force never had a show? In this division the Colonel, Adjutant, R.S.M., and the three C.S.M.s are all members of the P.F., and these are some help, n'est ce pas?

Our units have been somewhat badly hit by the large number of commissions recently given—good luck to those who have left us. Headquarters lost their R.S.M., draughtsman, and sidecar driver all in one day, and almost collapsed; while one section of a Field Company was left to the tender care of an acting L/C—without pay!

R.S.M. A. S. Hughson and Sapper H. L. Swan are now treading the "light fantastic" at about 160 per. I expect we shall hear "Some news" when the R.S.M. has changed his uniform.

* * *

Major Wilgar's Company.

Our sympathies are with the Major, who is away sick. We all miss him. Captain F. A. McGiverin has been "skipping" us along, with Lieut. L. W. Kilingner, M.C., as his first mate.

Lieut. F. G. Bird, M.C., has left us to take up a job as instructor at a Corps School.

Sgt. A. Jackson and C.Q.M.S. C. V. Wilkins, about to leave the class known as "other ranks," are now wearing the "white band" and throwing the gun about.

* * *

Major H. L. Trotter's Company.

The Major has been working up above, but is back with us again.

When Corpl. Cameron and Sapper G. Reid left us for the "Schools" in Blighty, we were all glad for their sakes, but we miss them.

We are hoping for the day when we will be able to get our own billets. There is a Company which gets ahead of us.

Mr. Wylie and Mr. Duffy have joined us.