

ROUND THE DEPOT.



Owing to the unfortunate sickness of R.S.M. Carpenter, our Headquarters correspondent, the Headquarters notes are obliged to be held over till next month.

We extend our sympathy to the R.S.M., and hope his "flu" won't turn into anything really serious.

And we wanted to publish his picture this month and all.



Extract from Battalion Orders, issued recently:—"There will be a muster parade of the 1st C.E.R.B. on Saturday, July 6th, 1914, at 4.30 p.m." We suppose this to be an indication as to the date the war will end, conceived by a master mind; the 19 is doubtless a misprint for 20.

We regret to record the departure of some who have long been in our midst. Lieuts. Cunningham, Cheney, Hoare, and Baker have left us feeling a little lonesome, although, of course, we are not worrying, for it is with "Pryde" they went away.

There are many who welcome the genial faces of Capt. W. MacIntosh, Capt. C. A. McCready, and Capt. H. T. May, also Lieuts. Ritchie, Frances, Stenhouse, and Biehl. Already they are pulling in the collar, and we are out to learn all they have to give us in the way of new "quiffs" from "over there."

Lieut. W. G. Pengelley has taken over the responsibility of training the R.T.S. in the way it should go, and we take this opportunity of warning any anticipating members of this institution that it is no place for those who wish to acquire speedily the art of "swinging the weights." The slogan is—"Make hay while the sun shines."

"A" Company.

The cinema draft looks fed up. They are afraid they will have their brass polished thin before they get going.

Why does the S.M. march men into Orderly Room with their hats on?

We understand that a combination of Orderly Room Sergeants from "A" and "B" Companies steps out regularly to Brighton and Eastbourne, but systematically fails to click. This should be seen to.

Why couldn't the R.S.M. find an easy spot on his saddle biking home from Eastbourne?

Fourteen of our men are leaving this week for France. Keeness to get to France is responsible for their desertion from signals. We wish them the best of luck and a safe return.

Our request for contributions to this column has not met with much success. The success or failure of our Magazine depends on the interest taken by each sapper in the Centre, and not on the amount of midnight oil burned by the Editor.

If anything either humorous or instructive turns up in the Company, write it down and turn it in to the Orderly Room. We want it.

"B" Company.

Our congratulations to "Hank" Leitch on receiving the crown. When does the anchor come along?

The poor old R.(a)T.S. are decreasing gradually, but are still in need of a linguist for the new gang of — Well, ask Sergt. Doncaster.

Sergts. Coates and Miller managed to "put one over" and get up to "The smoke" for the 4th of July. Rather dusty, eh, what?

Now is the time to see Sergt. Bayley about your Christmas leave.

The things that trouble the minds of our sappers are, "When can I get my six days?" and, "Say, guy, you had me on mess-hog last week." We hope to have music composed to these well known words.

Our new O.C. has arrived from France in the person of Lieut. F. A. Ritchie.

When a certain Sergeant is doing duty as B.O.S., why do the Company Orderly Rooms require a few dozen extra charge sheets? And does the same Sergeant, when off duty, make his home in the Company Orderly Rooms?

R.T.S.—Why is it called the Recruits' Training Section, when we have a large percentage of old "Swaddies"?

Some of the "Blue Stripes" are asking if it was christened thus for spite or convenience.

Notwithstanding its name, it is the most famous Section in camp. A short time spent in the vicinity of its Orderly Room is a real eye-opener. There is generally a good line up of "Recruits," applying for passes or punishment, pay or promotion. The staff are busy these days sorting out addresses in Glasgow and Edinburgh. The following is a sample of their troubles:—

Seaford, Sussex
Officer commanding, eng. July 7st, 9187.
R.T.S., 1th C.E.R.B.

Sir i beg permition to make apelation for landing leave for the perpos of going to Edinburgh. Adress while absent Y.M.C.A. Princes st.

I have, etc.

Another gem:—

Seaford.

O.C., R.T.S., 1st C.E.R.B.

Sir,—I beg to make application to draw £4 next pay for purpose of buying a wrist watch.

Yours, etc.

Walk up with your Company "news" as you think of it, and hand same to Orderly Room.