

**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/40/38

**Title:** 23rd Infantry Battalion

November 1918



AWM4-23/40/38



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

**ORIGINAL.**  
**DUPLICATE.**  
**TRIPLICATE.**

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*29th Battalion A.I.F.*

FOR

*November.*

*1918.*



Signature of Officer compiling

*G. J. Jones Lt.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*H. Reich*  
*Major*



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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AMIEHS 100000

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAUX-EN-AMIENNOIS	1 <sup>st</sup> 11.18.		Acting Quartermaster (Holt R Wilkins) L.D. M.C. called with Staff Capt. Training & recreational work being carried out according to syllabus. News received that Turkey had signed the armistice all ranks very pleased. Weather very fine & bracing.	
VAUX-EN-AMIENNOIS	2. 11.18.		An organised scheme throughout the Corps for rounding up of deserters. All available personnel on parade and search parties sent out. Resulting in the capture of 2 deserters. Area searched was Woods in F21. 22. 27. 28. 9005. 2nd Allca. U.S.	U.S. Strength 36. 666
VAUX-EN-AMIENNOIS	3. 11.18.		Church parade held in Saltn Concert Hall. Owing to indisposition Chap A Jefferys could not officiate Chap Blood acted in his stead. Weather very damp. Capt Blues & Lieut Oll Elliot M.C. left for leave to Bank Carl.	U.S.
VAUX-EN-AMIENNOIS.	4. 11.18.		Col (Capt Reth) with 4 Coy commands attended conference with the Inspector of Staff on training & demonstration of method at 5th A.I. Bde Concert Stanger. VIGNACOURT. Training as per syllabus. Recreational work in the afternoon 2nd A.I. Bde. defaced.	



# WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Continued	
VAVX	4.	11.18	Bde Hdqrs at football. Weather still very fine	ME
VAVX	5.	11.18	Impossible to adhere to training as per syllabus owing to heavy rainfall. Work carried on in gymnasium. Gent. Denning, D.W. Int. Officer, lectured to the Bde on German Army Organisation which proved very instructive & was greatly appreciated by all ranks. Bde was lectured by the Educational Officer, Gent. Pedersen on the aims & objects of the A.S. Educational Repatriation Scheme. Heavy rain.	ME
VAVX	6.	11.18	Training carried on in doors. Bde gas officer, Lt. Baston inspected the S.B. Respirators of the Bde. Lt. Col. inspected R.F.P. & Coy. commands attended a lecture given by Major Savashy, Bde Training Corp. Gent. Robertson acting D.W. Command. Called. Bde Officers Mess was opened in Mess Room Chateau grounds. The first occasion since our coming south in April '18. The change from Coy messes was greatly appreciated and a delightful evening spent very well.	ME



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAVX	7. 11. 18		During the continued heavy rain it was impossible to carry out training except indoors.	MG
VAVX	8. 11. 18		Training as per syllabus continued. Recreational pg. 64 & Bde Gymkhana was held at SIVAST. Battrn was represented in all events. and was successful in winning 7 prizes of the 13 events. A high creditable performance. Weather a little finer.	Strength 36. 646
VAVX	9. 11. 18		Training as per syllabus. Recreational work. Landed out. Weather still fine & bracing.	MG APP. I
VAVX	10. 11. 18		Training. Recreational work as per syllabus. Weather still fine.	MG
VAVX.	11. 11. 18.		RED LETTER day in the World's history. News of the signing of the armistice received about 9.30 AM. This was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Battrn Band marched through the streets. All the National Anthems played. Civilian population greatly joyed. Battrn press printed an extraordinary accept of news.	MG APP. 2.



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Continued.	
VAVX	11.11.18.		It was strange to note the reserve with which the news generally was received. An issue of pee beer was made. Weather misty later fine.	
VAVX	12.11.18.		Batn platoon Competition for A.K.A. Competitions was carried out on the Batn Basketball Course. After a very keen competition resulted in a win for 11 <sup>th</sup> platoon Coy. under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieut Whitbread. 11 <sup>th</sup> platoon B Coy. under 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieut V. C. Discom. D.C.M. M.M. being second. 11 <sup>th</sup> platoon A Coy. under being second. 11 <sup>th</sup> platoon D Coy. being third. Recreational work. Sepa Ashwell party visited the Batn and gave an excellent concert. Being greatly appreciated. Party was entertained at supper and a dance given at the Chateau. Weather fine & bracing.	
VAVX	13.11.18.		Batn route marched to La Chaussee to witness Bde platoon Competition & football match 24 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> Bn	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAVX	13.11.18.		Continued Went to a hitch on transport arrangement on representative platoon was composed of arrived on course, in time for the competition to start and were unfortunate enough to draw first place. Bth together with no time at their disposal did not enable them to make any preparation but rather unsteadied them. All circumstances being considered the exhibition made by them was good. 24th Bth succeeded in winning the competition. 24th Bth defeated 23rd Bth after an excellent exhibition of football on both sides by 3 goals. Bth returned by route march. Weather fine.	
VAVX	14.11.18.		Recreational Officers Gymkhana held near Vigna Court. Wood V 29 B 2.8. The Bth obtained 2 seconds in the event. Weather fine & raining.	OK
VAVX	15.11.18.		Training recreational work as per syllabus Act installed. Capt Bazelle M. Caching Bde major also visited various parties of Bth out training. Weather fine & raining.	OK



REF MAP SHEET

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAUX	16.11.18		Training and recreational work as per syllabus 2 Despatch round up today. Cinema show running in Concert Hall. Weather fine & bracing.	Strength 38. 660
VAUX.	17.11.18.		Church parade in Bath. Concert Hall, Chap Jefferys officiated Garrisonal concert. Party arrived to show in hall for ensuing week. Weather very cold. Fraty. 1st Lt killed <sup>acc</sup>	Off
VAUX	18.11.18.		Training and recreational work carried out as per Syllabus Conference at Swan Court. Bn commands days 2nd & 3rd. Future move forward to the Rhine discussed. 2nd Bn played 2nd Bn. at football resulting in a draw win for 2nd Bn. Warning order received that Bath would be in readiness to move at 24 hrs notice by rail. First show given by the 2nd Bn Concert Party, a great success indeed. Weather very fine & bracing.	App. 3
VAUX	19.11.18.		Full marching order parade held & route march. Military funeral for the 1st Lt killed of 2nd Bn. Buried in VAUX Cemetery. Meeting of Con commands & all officers. Instructions issued to move. Weather fine.	Off



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAUX.	20/11/18.		<p>Battal parade and route march to ST. VAST. 23rd Battal is represented in Divisional Ballet &amp; Bayonet competition by a platoon under Lieut. Lunn. M.C. won by a platoon of the 21st Battal. now 24th Battal. Books moved with Battal &amp; lunch was had at ST. VAST.</p> <p>Ordnance order received from 6th P.I. Brigade is move up into forward area. Lt J. E. Smith &amp; 1st B.O. per Coy moved on billeting party &amp; report to Brigade Major at BOHAIN.</p> <p>In the evening concert given by 2nd Div. Concert Party was well appreciated by the troops.</p> <p>Weather very misty and cold.</p>	
	21/11/18.		<p>C.O. inspects the Battal and takes them for a short route march. Major Pearce M.C. sits on route of.</p> <p>Inquiry re damage done by 24th Battal at LA CHAUSSEE.</p> <p>Brigade order received and (B.O.O. No. 141. sent to all Coys.</p>	<p>7. J. J.</p> <p>(App 4)</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VMUX. RM. AMIENS 013.	21/11/18.		All surplus gear that could not be conveniently carried by transport was sent to straining centre VICHACOURT. Weather frosty but fine.	
	22/11/18.		Batt <sup>n</sup> parade and marching out inspection. All billets thoroughly cleaned & inspected. Major Pascoe M.C. proceeds to VICHACOURT as Brigade Straining Officer and Lieut. Long acts as Batt <sup>n</sup> Straining Officer. Owing to a smash on the line all trains were somewhat late and the Batt <sup>n</sup> passed the starting point at 14.00. arriving at VICHACOURT at 19.00. Batt <sup>n</sup> transport left at 18.00 in order to strain. 1. Coy of 24 <sup>th</sup> Batt <sup>n</sup> strained with us. Left at 22.45 via AMIENS. PERONNE and CAMBRAI for BERTRY. Weather very cold, severe frosts.	
	23/11/18.		Arrive at PERONNE. 09.00. Batt <sup>n</sup> cookhouse provide hot tea for the men. Pass through CAMBRAI and arrive at straining station (BERTRY) at 14.15.	9. ff



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOHRAIN.	23/11/18.		Two Cys. A. & B. were left at BERTRY as unloading party for the Byde. Major Galbraith acting as Brigade Group Detaining Officer. The remainder of the Batta. H. A. C. & D. Cys. were sent 12. Miles to BOHRAIN. The band was of great assistance on the march and stayed as in the village. Arrived at 19.30. Hot tea provided and a meal as soon as stations were arrived. Ample accommodation for all men and billets very good. Weather very frosty.	Strength. 28. 656.
BOHRAIN.	24/11/18.		Batta rest over night and at 0900 a foot inspection was held by the R.M.O. 1000. Major Pascoe arrives at Batta. H. Q. 1400. after completing the unloading at BERTRY. The band plays A. & B. Companies in BOHRAIN. During the day many repairs both civilian and military houses have through the town. There	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEHRAIN	24/11/18		although in some instances presenting a pitiful spectacle were almost overcome with the joy of being released and free again.	
BEHRAIN	25/11/18		Drizzling rain fell throughout the day. Batter still just in billets. The Adjutant Leimbach M.C. visits Bgde. & reviews program for march to the CARTIGNIES. new. Batter's Operations Order (No. 142) issued to all Companies. 1600. L.O. Major Smith met all company commanders and discussed special points to be observed on the march, exact locality, dress, march discipline etc. Two flags were received from 1st Regiments 9 days before. Flag 3 ft 6 in square. Khaki background with Batter drawn 18 in square and yellow lining 4 in by 2 1/2 in. in the center. One of these flags is to be carried along with the Anzac Bn flag at the head of the Batter the	P. J. J. (APP. 4.)



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MAP ST. QUENTIN 100000 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOHRAIN	25/11/18		After will be presented to the Ratt. at some favorable opportunity by Mrs. Hughes and returned to Australia. (Signed attached)	(APP. 4)
			After wet and miserable.	
	26/11/18		Lt. J. E. Smith & 1 R. C. O. per. lay moved to ST. SOUPLET to billet the Ratt. Ratt. per. starting point at 09.45 and arrived at ST. SOUPLET at 12.30. Owing to the severe fighting in this area the village was badly damaged by shell fire; billeting accommodation was poor and in a filthy condition. 1800. Lt. Col. Brazener D. S. O. rejoins the Ratt. after nearly three months illness in England. Orders for move to FAVRIL sent to all Coys. (P. O. O. 189). Weather cold & wet. Roads in very muddy condition.	(APP. 6.) J. J. J.
	27/11/18		Ratt. on the march again for FAVRIL. Per. starting	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAVRIL	27/1/18		<p>starting point at 09.15. Battalion marched on the march and arrived at FAVRIL at 10.30. Again the billets were rather badly damaged accommodations for officers being particularly hard to find.</p> <p>6.0. met all Coy commanders &amp; seconds in command and discussed points noticed on the march, the probable part the Australians will play during the next few months and the proposed repatriation scheme.</p> <p>Lt. Col. Brazner D.S.O. takes over temporary command of 6th M.I. Brigade from Lt. Col. Wietshie D.S.O. M.C.</p> <p>Orders received from Pzde that the billeting area allotted to the Battalion had been changed &amp; Lt. Smith proceeded with Lt. Wilson to BOULOGNE to billet the Bn.</p> <p>Operation Order No. 154 sent to all Coys.</p> <p>Weather dull and cloudy.</p>	
FAVRIL	28/1/18		<p>Billeting party proceeded to ROUGE-CROIX BOULOGNE.</p>	<p>APP. 7.</p> <p>8.7.7</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERLOONE	28/11/18		<p>Platoon pass starting point at 0900. Blankets rolled in bundles &amp; carried as usual by the transport. Strict French discipline maintained and stock belts observed. Pillboxes in this area are very scattered and extending about 2 Kilos. along the RUE DE CROIX road. Platoon H. Qtr. in white house Chateau G. K. 74. 90.</p> <p>All companies connected by phone 1400. C.O. Major Bick holds a meeting of all Platoon commanders pointing out the necessity for strict discipline and their part in maintaining the high standard of efficiency now existing in the Platoon.</p> <p>Weather wet and miserable.</p>	2ff
	29/11/18		<p>Companies at the disposal of company commanders the morning being spent in clearing up clothing and equipment. Companies practice football during the afternoon.</p> <p>Weather cold but fine.</p>	2ff



# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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## WAR DIARY

OF

23rd BATTALION. A.I.F.

FOR

NOVEMBER 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

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Subject.

- |      |                                    |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 1.-  | Syllabus of Training.              |
| 2.-  | Battalion Paper Extraordinary.     |
| 3.-  | Syllabus of Training.              |
| 4.-  | Battalion Operation Order No. 151. |
| 5.-  | do. do. do. No. 152.               |
| 6.-  | do. do. do. No. 153.               |
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| 9.-  | C.O's. Resumé.                     |
| 10.- | Transport Officer's Summary.       |
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23rd Battalion - 6th Infantry Brigade.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING - WEEK ENDING 16th NOVEMBER. 1918.

Date.	Time.					
	0900 to 0915 to 0915. 1000.	0915 to 1000.	1000 to 1200.	1330 to 1600.		
11.11.18.	C.O's. Inspection	Phy. Training.	Training - Platoon Competitions, A.R.A. <del>XXX-XXXXXX</del> . Conditions.	Recreational Training.		
12.11.18.	Gas Drill.	Bayonet Fighting.	Battalion Platoon Competitions, A.R.A. conditions.	Recreational Training.		
Time.						
	0900 to 0915.	0915 to 1000.	1000 to 1045.	1045 to 1100.	1100 to 1200.	1330 to 1600.
13.11.18.	C.O's Inspection.	Phy. Trng. Bayonet Fighting	Musketry Smoke-0	Bombing.		Recreational Training.
14.11.18.	Gas Drill.	Phy. Trng. Bayonet Fighting	Musketry Smoke-0	Coy. in attack - Semi-open Warfare.		Recreational Training.
15.11.18.	C.O's Inspection.	Phy. Trng. Bayonet Fighting	Musketry Smoke-0	Battalion Drill.		Recreational Training.
16.11.18.	BATTALION ROUTE MARCH.					

ANTI-GAS TRAINING.-

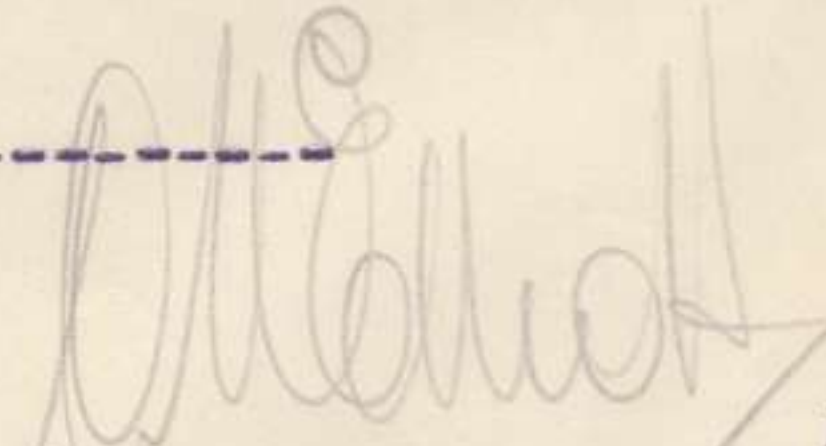
Include Anti-Gas Training during other Training, particularly Tactical Exercises.

NIGHT MARCH.-

On Monday 11th inst. ALL Coys. will carry out a Night March for half an hour commencing 5.30 p.m. under Company arrangements.

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7th November. 1918.

  
Lieut.  
A/Adjutant. 23rd Battalion.



App. 7e



# EXTRAORDINARY.

## Hostilities Cease.

NOV. 11th., 12 a.m.

Word has just been received by the C.O., Major Beith that hostilities ceased to-day.

The following is a copy of the message received by the unit:—

TO ALL BATTALIONS.

From Marshall Foch to Commander-in-Chief.—Hostilities will cease from 11

o'clock (French Time.) Allied Troops will not cross the line at that time until further notice."

The news, although expected, was received with subdued feelings at first, followed by cheers after the first shock.

The band was formed up by Serg. Wilson, and played the National Airs of our own and Allied countries, the first choice being "The Marseillaise."

**Vive La France.**



23rd Battalion - 6th Infantry Brigade.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING - WEEK ENDING 23rd NOVEMBER, 1918.

Date.	Time.			
	0900 to 0915.	0915 to 1000.	1000 to 1200.	1330 to 1600.
18.11.18.	C.O's. Inspection	Physical Training.	Platoon <sup>TRAINING</sup> <del>on</del> on Bn. Musketry Range.	Recreational Training.
19.11.18.	Gas Drill.	Bayonet Fighting.	Musketry.	Recreational Training.
20.11.18.	C.O's. Inspection	Physical Training.	Musketry.	Recreational Training.
21.11.18.	Gas Drill.	Physical Training. Bayonet Fighting.	Musketry.	Recreational Training.
22.11.18.	C.O's. Inspection	Physical Training. Bayonet Fighting.	Musketry.	Recreational Training.
23.11.18.	BATTALION ROUTE MARCH.			

ANTI-GAS TRAINING.-

Include Anti-Gas Training during other Training, particularly Tactical Exercises.

NIGHT MARCH.-

On Monday, 18th inst., ALL Coys. will carry out a NIGHT MARCH for half an hour, commencing at 1730, under Company arrangements.

BATTALION ROUTE MARCH - 23.11.18.-

DRESS.- Full Marching Order.

SMOKE-O.- 1045 to 1100 Daily.

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15th November, 1918.

*Pascoe* Major.  
23rd Battalion.



SECRET.-

Copy No 2

BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 151.

Ref. Maps.-

AMIENS, LENS. )  
VALENCIENNES. ) 1/100,000.  
ST. QUENTIN. )

APPENDIX <sup>4</sup>

21st NOVEMBER, 1918.

- 1.- The 2nd Australian Division, less Artillery, is moving by Strategical Train from YZEUX Area to FRESNOY Area commencing 21st November, 1918.
- 2.- The 23rd Battalion, A.I.F., will move by TRAIN from VIGNACOURT at 1711 on the 22nd inst. and will detrain at BERTRY.  
1 Coy., 24th Battalion, A.I.F., with Cooker, will move with this Battalion.
- 3.- STARTING POINT.- VAUX, FREMONT and ST. VAST Roads.
- 4.- HEAD OF THE COLUMN will pass Starting Point at 1430.  
Coys. to be in position by 1425.
- 5.- ORDER OF MARCH.- Band, "H'Qrs.", "A", "B", "C" and "D" Coys.  
Distance of 100 yards will be maintained between Coys.
- 6.- DRESS.- Full Marching Order.  
1 Blanket will be carried (Horseshoe Fashion).  
Iron Rations; and 24 hours Rations.  
Water Bottles filled.  
S.B.R. slung over Right Shoulder.  
Mess Tins under Steel Helmet.  
60 rounds S.A.A. per man.
- 7.- OFFICERS' VALISES will be dumped at Q.M's. Store by 1100 on the 22nd inst.  
Rolling of Valises to be personally supervised by Officers and thus reduce space.  
Coy. MESS BOXES will be carried on Cookers.
- 8.- BLANKETS.- One Blanket per man will be rolled in Bundles of 10 (Width of Blanket) securely tied in three places and clearly labelled and dumped at Q.M's. Store by 0800 on the 22nd inst.  
BAND PACKS will be dumped at Q.M's. Store by 0800, 22nd inst.
- 9.- TRANSPORT will report to Entraining Station 3 hours prior to departure of Train and will move independently.
- 10.- Major. J. PASCOE M.C. will act as Brigade Group Entraining Officer.
- 11.- Captain W.J. GALBRAITH will act as Brigade Group Detraining Officer at BERTRY.
- 12.- Lieut. H. LONG will act as Battalion Entraining Officer and will report to Major. J. PASCOE M.C. at VIGNACOURT at 1400, 22nd inst., ENTRAINING STATE to be carried.
- 13.- "A" and "B" Coys. are detailed as Unloading Parties for the Brigade Group at BERTRY Station.  
O.C's., "A" and "B" Coys., will arrange mutually for Reliefs.
- 14.- Coy. Commanders will furnish Certificate that all Billets occupied by them have been left in a clean and sanitary condition.  
Certificates to reach Battalion H'Qrs. by 1200, 22nd inst.  
Certificates signed by Billet Owners that all claims have been settled will be rendered to Battn. H'Qrs. by 1200, 22nd inst.
- 15.- A C K N O W L E D G E.

DISTRIBUTION.-

Overleaf.

Lieut.  
A/Adjutant, 23rd Battalion.







Ref. Maps.- ST. QUENTIN. )  
VALENCIENNES. ) 1/100,000.

25th NOVEMBER. 1918.

- 1.- The 6th A.I. Brigade Group will move to the CARTIGNIES AREA to-morrow, 26th inst., by March Route and will pass Starting Point - FARM 1,500 yards North of "B" in BOHAIN on BUSIGNY Road - at 0945.
- 2.- The 23rd Battalion, A.I.F., will leave their present Billeting Area at 0915 to-morrow, 26th inst., and will proceed to ST. SOUPLET.
- 3.- STARTING POINT.- Junction FRESNOY-le-GRAND - LE CATEAU Roads - and RUE de REPUBLIQUE.  
Head of the Column will pass starting point at 0915.  
Coys. to be in position by 0910.  
ORDER OF MARCH.- Band, "H'Qrs", ~~XXX~~, "B", "C", "D" & "A" Coys.
- 4.- DISTANCES will be maintained throughout the March as follows.-
 

Between Battalions	-	50 yards.
" Companies	-	10 "
" Units and Transport	-	50 "
" each Section of 12 Vehicles	-	25 "

 After passing Brigade Starting Point these distances will be increased to.-
 

Between Battalions	-	200 yards.
" Coys. and Transports	-	50 "
- 5.- DRESS.- Full Marching Order.  
Iron Rations.  
Unconsumed portion of Day's Rations.  
Water Bottles filled.  
S.B.R's. slung over Right Shoulder.  
Mess Tins under Steel Helmet.  
60 rounds S.A.A. per man.
- 6.- OFFICERS' VALISES will be dumped at Q.M's. Store by 0800.  
Rolling of Valises to be personally supervised by Officers.  
Coy. MESS BOXES will be carried on Cookers.
- 7.- BLANKETS.- 2 Blankets per man will be rolled in bundles of 10 (Width of Blanket) securely tied in three places and clearly labelled and will be dumped at Q.M's. Store by 0800 on the 26th inst.  
Band PACKS will be dumped at Transport Lines by 0800.
- 8.- BILLETING PARTY.- Coy. Billeting N.C.O's. will report to Lieut. J.E. SMITH at Battalion H'Qrs. at 0745 on the 26th inst., and will move by Bicycles to ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ST. SOUPLET, reporting to Lieut. C.B. HISLOP at Area Commandant's Office.
- 9.- TRANSPORT.- Transport must not be OVERLOADED, and the greatest care exercised to prevent Breakdowns.  
Any repairs necessary on the March will be carried out by the Divisional Train.  
Vehicles that cannot be repaired will have to be left at Staging Places and dealt with by one Light O.M. Workshop which will be attached to Corps.
- 10.- RETURNING PRISONERS OF WAR.-  
No released Prisoners of War will be allowed, under any circumstances, to remain with the Battalion but will be evacuated through Reception Camps at VAUX, ANDIGNY and AVESNES.
- 11.- CLOCK HALTS will be observed on the March.

P.T.O.



App 5

Copy No 2

BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 152 (Contd.).

12.- Coy. Commanders will furnish Certificates that all Billets occupied by them have been left in a Clean and Sanitary condition, to reach Battalion H'qrs. by 0830.

13.- A C K N O W L E D G E.

DISTRIBUTION.-

- 1.- File.
- 2/4.- War Diary.
- 5.- C.O.
- 6.- Adjutant.
- 7.- 6th A.I. Brigade.
- 8/12.- C.O.'s. Coys.
- 13.- Q.M.
- 14.- Transport Officer.
- 15/16.- Spares.

A/Adjutant. 33rd Battalion.

*[Signature]*  
Lieut.



Ref. Map.- VALENCIENNES. 1/100,000.

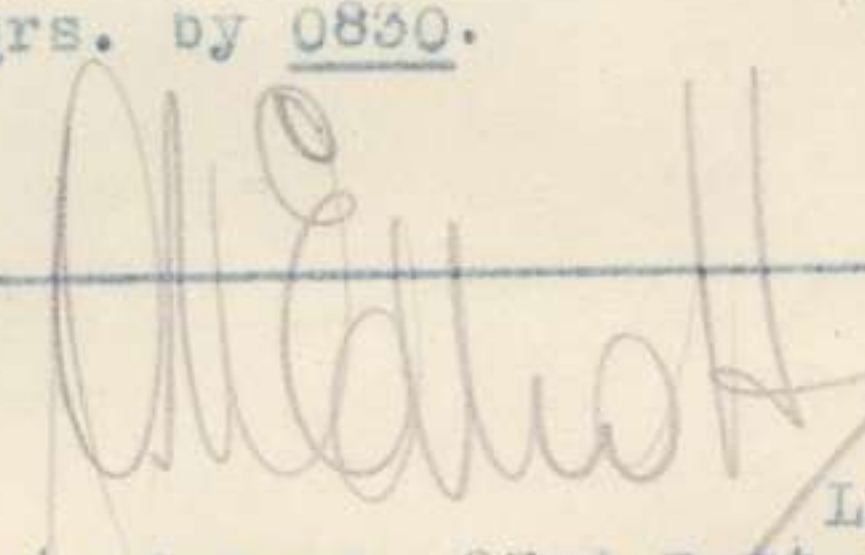
26th NOVEMBER. 1918.

- 1.- The 6th A.I. Brigade Group will continue move to the CARTIGNIES AREA to-morrow, 27th inst., by March Route.
- 2.- The 23rd Battalion. A.I.F. will leave their present Billeting Area at 0910 to-morrow, 27th inst., and will proceed to FAVRIL AREA, via MAZINGHIEN, CATILLON, LA GROISE and BOIS TOAILLON.
- 3.- STARTING POINT.- Junction of St. BENIN - ST. SOUPLET Road and ST. SOUPLET - MAZINGHIEN Road.  
HEAD OF THE COLUMN will pass Starting Point at 0910.  
Coys. to be in position by 0905.  
ORDER OF MARCH.- Band, H'Qrs., "C", "D", "A" and "B" Coys.
- 4.- The following DISTANCES will be maintained throughout the March:-
 

Between Battalions	-	500 yards.
" Companies	-	100 "
" Unit and Transport Section	-	100 "
- 5.- DRESS.- Full Marching Order.  
Iron Rations.  
Unconsumed portion of Day's Rations.  
Water Bottles filled.  
S.B.R's slung on top of the Pack.  
Mess Tins under Steel Helmet.  
60 rounds S.A.A. per man.
- 6.- OFFICERS' VALISES will be dumped at Q.M.'s. Store by 0800.  
Rolling of Valises to be personally supervised by Officers.  
Coy. MESS BOXES will be carried on Cookers.
- 7.- BLANKETS.- 2 Blankets per man will be rolled in Bundles of 10 (Width of Blanket) securely tied in three places and clearly labelled and will be dumped at Q.M.'s. Store by 0800 on the 27th inst. BAND PACKS will be dumped at Transport Lines by 0800.
- 8.- BILLETING PARTY.- Coy. Billeting N.C.O's. will report to Lieut. J.E. SMITH at Battalion Orderly Room (opposite Church) at 0745 on the 27th inst., and will move by Bicycles to FAVRIL reporting to Lieut. C.B. HISLOP at Area Commandant's Office.
- 9.- CLOCK HALTS will be observed on the March.
- 10.- Brigade Column will halt on route for Lunch from 1245 to 1400 hours.
- 11.- Coy. Commanders will furnish Certificates that ALL Billets occupied by them have been left in a Clean and Sanitary condition, to reach Battalion H'Qrs. by 0830.
- 12.- ACKNOWLEDGE.

DISTRIBUTION.-

- 1.- File.
- 2/4.- War Diary.
- 5.- C.O.
- 6.- Adjutant.
- 7.- 6th A.I. Brigade.
- 8/12.- O.C's. Coys.
- 13.- Q.M.
- 14.- Transport Officer.

  
 A/Adjutant. 23rd Battalion.

Lieut.



Ref. Map.- VALENCIENNES. 1/100,000.

27th NOVEMBER. 1918.

- 1.- The 6th A.I. Brigade Group will continue move to the BOULOGNE AREA to-morrow, 28th inst., by March Route.
- 2.- The 23rd Battalion. A.I.F. will leave their present Billeting Area at 0900 to-morrow, 28th inst., and will proceed to BOULOGNE AREA via FRISCHES and CARTIGNIES.
- 3.- STARTING POINT.- Junction of Roads near CHURCH.  
Head of the Column will pass Starting Point at 0900.  
Coys. to be in position by 0855.  
ORDER OF MARCH.- Band, H'Qrs., "D", "A", "B" and "C" Coys.
- 4.- The following DISTANCES will be maintained throughout the March:-
 

Between Battalions	-	500 yards.
" Companies	-	100 "
" Unit and Transport Section	-	100 "
- 5.- DRESS.- Full Marching Order.  
Iron Rations.  
Unconsumed portion of Day's Rations.  
Water Bottles filled.  
S.B.R's. slung on top of the Pack.  
Mess Tins under Steel Helmet.  
60 rounds S.A.A. per man.
- 6.- OFFICERS' VALISES will be dumped at Coy. H'Qrs. Billets by 0745.  
Rolling of Valises to be personally supervised by Officers.  
Coy. MESS BOXES will be carried on Cookers.
- 7.- BLANKETS.- 2 Blankets per man will be rolled in Bundles of 10 (Width of Blanket) securely tied in three places and clearly labelled and will be dumped as under by 0745 on the 28th inst.-
 

"B", "C" and "D" Coys.	-	In Coy. Dumps at Coy. H'Qrs.
"A" Coy.	-	At men's Billet.
"H'Qrs".	-	Q.M's. Store.

 Band PACKS will be dumped at Transport Lines by 0745.
- 8.- BILLETING PARTY.- Coy. Billeting N.C.O's. will report to Lieut. F.J. JENKINS M.C. M.M. at Battalion Orderly Room at 0745 to-morrow, 28th inst., and will move by Bicycles to BOULOGNE where they will meet Lieut. J.E. SMITH, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.
- 9.- CLOCK HALTS will be observed on the March.
- 10.- Watches will be SYNCHRONISED at 0800 to-morrow, 28th inst.
- 11.- Coy. Commanders will furnish Certificates that ALL Billets occupied by them have been left in a Clean and Sanitary condition, to reach Battalion H'Qrs. by 0830 to-morrow, 28th inst.
- 12.- A C K N O W L E D G E.

DISTRIBUTION.-

- 1.- File.
- 2/4.- War Diary.
- 5.- C.O.
- 6.- Adjutant.
- 7.- 6th A.I. Brigade.
- 8/12.- O.C's. Coys.
- 13.- Q.M.
- 14.- Transport Officer.

Lieut.  
A/Adjutant. 23rd Battalion.



## BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 155.

Ref. Map.- VALENCIENNES. 1/100,000.

30th NOVEMBER. 1918. *App. 7.*

- 1.- At about 1430 hours 1st December. 1918. His Majesty the King will drive along the main AVESNES - MARBAIX - LANDRECIES Road coming from the direction of AVESNES.
- 2.- The 6th A.I. Brigade (less Transport) will line part of the Main Road between MARBAIX and MAREILLES.
- 3.- Troops will be formed up in single line on either side of the Road with Officers 1 pace in front. They will be in position by 1355.
- 4.- The 23rd Battalion. A.I.F. will pass Starting Point at 0945.
- 5.- STARTING POINT.- Cross-Roads South-West of "B" Coy's Billet and immediately North of "V" in GHEVREUIL.

HEAD OF THE COLUMN will pass Starting Point at 0945. in the following order:-

Band, "H'Qrs"., "A" "B", "C" and "D" Coys.

Coys. to be in position by 0940.

- 6.- DRESS.- Web Waist Belt and Bayonet.  
Greatcoats will be worn by all ranks.  
Haversacks for carrying Mess Tins and Dry Rations.  
All ranks will wear Australian Hats turned up at the side.  
No Rifles will be carried.
- 7.- "B" and "C" Coy's Cookers will accompany the Battalion for the Mid-day Meal.
- 8.- A C K N O W L E D G E.

DISTRIBUTION.-

*Alfred*  
Lieut.  
A/Adjutant. 23rd Battalion.

- 1.- File.
- 2/4.- War Diary.
- 5.- C.O.
- 6.- Adjutant.
- 7/11.- O.C's. Coys.
- 12.- Transport Officer.
- 13.- Q.M.



23rd Battalion - 6th Infantry Brigade.  
-----COMMANDING OFFICER'S SUMMARY FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER. 1918.

Battalion spent first three weeks of the Month at VAUX-en-AMIENOIS. Much work was done to improve Billets, erect stage in Concert Hut, erect Gymnasium and generally improve things for the comfort and well being of the men.

Baths were put in working order and were available daily. Delouser was erected by Engineers.

Advantage was taken of the accommodation available to re-organise Officers' and Sergeants' Messes for Battalion. Both were well equipped and the change from Company Messes much appreciated.

Training Syllabus was carried out each Morning, when weather permitted, the Afternoons being devoted to Recreational Training.

Much interest was taken in the Gymnasium and when the Hall was not required for other purposes, classes were held each Afternoon and Night and good progress made.

Early in the Month the Educational Officer allotted to this Battalion reported and at once commenced his work. He addressed all ranks on the Educational Scheme. The few days were spent by him in collecting necessary statistics and then classes were formed for study of French, Arithmetic and Algebra. The local School Room was placed at our disposal by the School Mistress on condition we defrayed cost of Lighting.

Lectures to all ranks were also delivered by Intelligence Officer, 2nd Australian Division, on "The German Army", and by Bishop FRODSHAN M.A. D.D., on "The British Empire and Democracy".

C.O. and Coy. Commanders attended a Lecture and demonstration by Staff of Training Inspectorate on latest methods of Training.

Battalion was responsible for collecting 5 Deserters of long standing - three at the general round up and two at a later date.

The news that first TURKEY, and later GERMANY, had accepted the Allied Armistice terms was very pleasant, though in both cases it was rather quietly accepted by all ranks.

Battalion was favored by a visit from Padre GAULT from Base. He conducted what he called one of his "Fun Stunts" on Saturday Evening, 9th November, and assisted at Church Parade on the following Sunday.

During the Month Concerts were provided by ~~XXXX~~ Lena ASHWELL'S Dramatic Party and the 2nd Australian Division Concert Party, and Cinema Show provided for three or four Nights by the Y.M.C.A.

I regret to have to make mention of the Accidental Death of No. 6885 Pte. H. SILK of "C" Company which occurred during the Month.

Battalion left VAUX-en-AMIENOIS on the 22nd November. 1918. on the first stage of "The advance to the Rhine". Train journey from VIGNACOURT to BERTRY occupied about 16 hours.

Leaving BOHAIN on the 26th November. 1918. Battalion started on a three day's Route March to present location - BOULOGNE Area. March discipline was well adhered to and the result of the Training during the early portion of the Month was recognised in the fact that no men fell out from any of the Marches.

About the 26th November. 1918. the two Regimental Flags supplied by the Regimental Flags Committee were received and one of them has been carried at the head of the Battalion on the Marches.

CLOTHING and BOOTS are in fair condition, but there is still great difficulty in getting Australian Pattern Hats. Supply of Australian Clothing is also desirable to replace some of the un-serviceable Clothing.

P.T.O.



TRANSPORT is in very good condition and received a good report after the inspection by Divisional Staff.

At the Brigade Gymkhana the Transport pulled off 7 prizes and at the Divisional Horse Show it took 2 second prizes.

HEALTH of Troops has been good generally.

BATTALION PAPER has been issued twice during Month, and in addition a single sheet - Extraordinary Issue - was printed on the 11th November, 1918. when the news was received that Germany had signed the Armistice.

#### DECORATIONS.

##### MILITARY MEDALS.

No.	615	Sgt.	J.A.	MORRISON.
"	1701	Pte.	W.P.	CURTAIN.
"	394	"	R.	LAWRENCE.
"	744	"	R.L.	HANSLOW.
"	742	"	J.	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXX</del> HOLLINGSWORTH.

##### MOVEMENTS OF OFFICERS.

<u>Rejoined.-</u>	Lt.-Col.	W.	BRAZENOR D.S.O.	26.11.18.
	Lieut.	G.W.	GRIFFIN M.C.	8.11.18.
	Lieut.	W.R.	FINLAYSON M.C.	10.11.18.

##### Promotions.

Lieut. (T/Capt).	W.A.	MARTIN M.C.	Promoted Captain.	21.10.18.
Capt. (T/Major).	J.	PASCOE M.C.	" Major.	28.10.18.
Lieut.	L.G.	ADDISON M.C.	" Captain.	28.10.18.
2/Lieut.	P.J.	SMITH D.S.O.	Promoted Lieut.	1.10.18.
"	W.D.	CAMPBELL.	" "	"
"	F.S.	KENT.	" "	"
"	F.	HOLDSWORTH.	" "	"

##### DISCIPLINE.-

Orderly Room Cases for the Month numbered 23.  
F.G.C.M. Cases numbered 7.

-----000-----

1st December. 1918.

*L. B. Smith* Major.  
T/Commanding. 23rd Battalion.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE **APPENDIX** 1023rd Battalion - 6th Infantry Brigade.  
-----TRANSPORT OFFICER'S SUMMARY FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER. 1918.

On the 22nd November. 1918. the Transport moved from **VAUX** to **BOHAIN**, entraining at **VIGNACOURT** at 8.00 p.m. and detraining at **BERTRY** at 3.00 p.m. on the 23rd November. 1918. Trekking to **BOHAIN** arriving there at 11.00 p.m., being held up owing to congestion of Motor Traffic.

On the 26th November. 1918. the Transport moved to **ST. SOUPLET** a distance of 16 kilometres arriving at 1.00 p.m. and leaving at 9.00 a.m. next morning (27th) for **FAVRIL**, arriving there at 3.00 p.m. Left the following Morning (28th) at 9.00 a.m. for **BOULOGNE** arriving there at 1.00 p.m. Transport billeted in **LOWER BOULOGNE**.

We were fortunate in being able to secure Stabling for all Horses during the Trek, the stabling in this area being particularly good. We were also able to get some grazing which the horses will undoubtedly feel the benefit of.

The March Discipline throughout the Trek was very good, and the smartness of general turnout was kept up to the same standard as that displayed on the first day.

The Transport was kept busy during the Month carting Rations, Water, Firewood and Engineers' Material for Battalion use, the latter being carted from **BETHENCOURT** to **VAUX** a distance of 15 kilometres.

One Heavy Draught Horse was drawn from Remount Depot on the 20th November. 1918. This remount is a good class.

-----000-----

30th November. 1918.

*W. H. Jones*  
Lieut.  
Transport Officer. 23rd Battalion.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.23rd Battalion - 6th Infantry Brigade.  
-----QUARTERMASTER'S SUMMARY FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER. 1918.

The 1st November. 1918. found the Battalion in very comfortable quarters in the village of VAUX-en-AMIENOIS where the men had good Billets and plenty of Sports.

Rations were good and were supplemented by purchases of Vegetables etc. from Civilians. Meals were equal to those obtainable in a Standing Camp.

On the night of the 22nd November. 1918. at 5.00 p.m. the Battalion marched to VIGNACOURT and entrained, and after being in the Train for 23 hours arrived at BERTRY where it detrained. Two Companies were left at the Station as an Unloading Party for the rest of the Brigade and the remainder of the Battalion marched to BOHAIN.

Rations and Cookers were left at the Station for the Companies remaining there, and these two Companies rejoined at BOHAIN the next day.

On the Morning of the 26th November. 1918. we proceeded by March Route to ST. SOUPLET where the Billets were found to be anything but pleasant. Rations were expected to be issued at 3.00 p.m. but they did not arrive until 2.00 a.m. next Morning.

About 9.00 a.m. on the 27th November. 1918. the Battalion was on its way to FAVRIL where one night was spent. Rations again did not arrive until MIDNIGHT. This proved very fatiguing for the men in the Store as they had to wait up all night for Rations and, besides loading and unloading wagons at the beginning and end of the day, had to carry Packs during the March.

On the 28th November. 1918. we moved again to BOULOGNE where we have remained until the end ~~XXXX~~ of the Month.

During the Month RATIONS have been Good although sometimes delayed owing to the congestion of Railways and length of Communications.

All Ordnance demands have been supplied with the exception of Leather and Half-Soles for repairing Boots. This will create considerable difficulty if the supply is too long delayed as once the Boots get beyond repair it will be necessary to replace the Boots throughout the Battalion.

-----  
30th November. 1918.

*J. H. Jones*  
Capt.  
Quartermaster. 23rd Battn. A.I.F.







APPENDIX 12

12



The following is an announcement of the first of a series of Sports Meetings to be held during the period of rest. Programmes have been issued and distributed amongst the various Units of the Brigade.

Sixth A.I. Brigade.

## Gymkhana.

Friday, 8th November,  
1918.

SPORTS GROUND, IN THE FIELD,  
Commencing 12 noon.

### ..OFFICIALS..

President: Lieut.-Col. A. R. I. Wiltshire, D.S.O., M.C.

Committee, (Chairman) Major J. J. McCall; Lieuts. P. J. Abercrombie, M.C., 22nd Battn., L. S. Maddrell, M.C., 23rd Battn.; A. Peck, 24th Battn. Sub-Committee: Capt. T. B. Farrell, M.C., Brig. Trans. Off.; Lieuts. H. Edwards M.C., D.C.M., M.M., 22nd Battn.; R. Hume, 23rd Battn.; Lieut. G. J. Francis, 24th Battn.; T. H. Scholfield, M.M., T.M.B. Starters, Capt. E. T. Bazeley, Div. H.Q., Lieut. C. H. Miller, D.C.M., Judges: Events 1, 2, and 6, Major Charlton, Div. Trair; Capt. J. C. Little, 7th Brig. H.Q. Event 3, Majors R. M. Hore, D.A.D.V.S.; J. W. Donnelly, D.S.O.,

Pioneer Battn. Event 5, Major T. H. Hankin. A.A.V.C. Events 4 and 7, Capt. McNab, 5th Brig. H.Q., H. W. Ennis, 16th A.S.C. Events 8, 9, 12, 13, 17., Brig.-General J. C. Robertson, C.M.G. D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. A. R. I. Wiltshire, D.S.O., M.C. Events 11, 14, 16, Major D. Beith, 23rd Battn., L. W. Matthews, D.S.O., 22nd Battn. Events 10 and 15, Capt. H. W. Ennis, 16th A.S.C., Capt. McNab, 5th Brig. H.Q. Stewards: For events 1 to 7, Capt. A. G. Brown, M.C., 6th Brig. H.Q., A. R. MacNeil, M.C., 24th Battn., J. P. W. Hogg, M.C., 6th T.M.B. Events 8 to 17, Majors Ellwood, M.C., 24th Battn., E. H. Davis, M.C., 22nd Battn., J. Pascoe, M.C., 23rd.

Lieut. C. B. HISLOP, Hon. Sec.

Printed and Published in the Field by Cpl. H. Ford.

*The Voice of THE Battalion*

"FORWARD" "UNDETERRED"

# 23

1st NOV. 1918

PRICE 10 Cents

THE A.I.

GALLIPOLI · LONE PINE · ARMENTIERES  
POZIERES · BAPAUME · BULLECOURT  
YPRES · BROODSEINDE · PLOEGSTEERT

"The broken legions  
of the foe  
Reel faster eastward  
day by day,  
And insolent still, but  
soon to know  
The price we mean to  
make them pay."  
—Argent.

25-5-18 G.L.N.



## GENERALITIES.

This issue is not as large as usual on account of the very heavy work entailed in the production of the "Annual," and the movements of the Battalion.

Capt. A. J. Noall has been operated on at the Caulfield Military Hospital. It will be some considerable time before he will be able to leave.

A sincere friendship has grown between our Battalion and the adjacent Tank Unit. Lieut. Lou Maddrell has had something to do with it—and the football matches.

The late M.O., otherwise Capt. A. J. Orr, is now resplendant in all the brass-work of D.A.C. Brilliancy is said to be a habit with that Unit.

The "Pip-Ess" is back from Blighty "O.K.", and reports that the Comforts Fund H.Q. is a place of great size and importance there. Major T. Henley and Capt. Cridland are the enthusiastic officers in charge.

The endeavors of Sgt. Ramsdale as a manager and performer in introducing the entertainments to break the monotony of the long evenings are apparently heartily appreciated by those who have attended the series presented at our last billeting place. O. Johnson, Rix, Trewartha, Thompson, Mr. Carter, Donnelly, of the Y.M.C.A., and Lieut. Holland deserve the thanks of all for their splendid efforts. That there is talent in the Battalion is without question, although it be of modest pretensions, and with a manager as at present a combination could be formed of at least, very fair merit.

Colonel Brazenor, although convalescing is not as well as he might be. His return shortly, however, is not unlikely.

Col. McKenzie, who has been enjoying leave in Paris, has returned to duty.

One of the invalids in hospital writes—  
"I met Major Bladen nearly every day, and the grand old man is looking better than ever."

Captain Daniels our M.O. has returned from English leave.

Lieut. W. Whitbread, of the 21st Battn, has been transferred to us.

Lieut. P. J. Smith, D.S.O., has increased his shoulder decorations by 100 per cent, also Lieuts. Campbell, Kent, and Holdsworth.

The raid for those of the doubtful character, unfortunately in our ranks, was very successful, and quite a number of these vermin have been either exterminated or imprisoned.

The officer in charge of football (the Australian game) reports that the boys are putting in a lot of time training and are practising splendidly.

Hearty congratulations to Major Pascoe on receipt of his Crown. Well earned is the opinion of officers and men.

Thanks to Capt. E. T. Bazeley, M.C., for his willing assistance during publication of our Annual.

Lieut. C. B. Hislop is just as busy as a bee in connection with the Brigade Gymkhana.

## AMONGST THE BOYS.

At Rest!

This will do for the duration.

Although rough better than plonkers.

The band are fond of their "Whisky." Always carry it now.

There is a "tale" attached to this Whisky. He is a mascot poodle.

The Pioneers will be interested to know that "Fitz." flits to Footscray or somewhere thereabouts as soon as convalescent.

"Scotty" Gordon doesn't weigh quite so heavy as before. He has lost part of his pedal appendage, but is cheerful withal. Perhaps it is the prospect of soon sailing merrily home.

L.-Cpl. Fitzpatrick is at Harefield, doing well. Two operations were necessary to remove the small iron deposit from his arm.

Padre Jeffries' sister is nursing in the Harefield hospital, so we hear. She is some nurse says one of the boys.

"Dinny" Dwyer writes from Corps School that it is some place. He hopes to return about the 15th.

"Sandy" Capp is looking as well-groomed and sleek as a British "Majah" at Oxford school.

S.M. Kilgour seems to have a warm corner in his heart for those of the red and brown diamond at Corps School.

Corp. Parfitt, of C Coy, is booked for a trip on the briny before the leaves have finished falling.

Bert Pollard forwards kin regards to all he knows.

Pte. E. Auty is due back with the battalion at any time now.

Cpl. Sheffs, D Coy., is believed to be waiting for an ocean liner to land him in Liberty Land—Australia.

R.S.M. "Bill" Woodlands is greatly on the improve. Information regarding him is very vague, and we don't know his movements.

Serg. Leav, Chef de Bottiers has been evacuated with the now prevalent malady. This is Harry's first serious illness for over three years.

"Dennis," of the double Dd. cognomen had a try in a three-and-a-half mile sprint at school. He says he just crawled in at the tail end.

Sgt. Stewart is at Brummagem doing A1, but it will probably be a lengthy period before appearing again in the great drama.

The old thing will have an extra covering on his breast for the winter. Congrats on securing the M.M.

Sgt. Jeffries swanks at Fovant Camp. On a good wicket apparently.

Q.M.S. Lorimer at Base. Going for board. Good luck.

A "bird" flew into a motor lorry the other day. S.M. Cameron believing "a bird in the bus is worth two in the bush," captured it with the consoling remark, "You're stiff, digger." It was no canary either.

APPENDIX 13



— A MESSAGE. —

The following are extracts from a letter received from our old friend Padre Bladen:—

"... I can never forget the some-time strenuous but always happy days that I spent with the boys in Gallipoli, Egypt and France. My heart is always with my old Battalion.

I follow with intense interest the magnificent record which it continues to put up and rejoice in its successes. I congratulate you heartily on the little paper you publish in the field, and I read with eagerness and pleasure the latest news of the welfare of the Battalion and its work. . . . Remember me kindly to the old boys of whom I always think with great affection. Kindest regards.

Your affectionate Old Padre,  
PERCY BLADEN.

P.S.—I often meet boys from the old Battalion in this hospital and find the keenest pleasure in renewing old associations with them.

In a later communication, referring to the personnel of the Battalion, Padre Bladen writes—

"They will do me, and my association with them will always be one of the proudest recollections of my life. You may rest assured that I keep my eyes open for the old colors, and I never let them pass me without having a chat with the wearer. I understand that you are all out of the line now, and I hope you have a good long rest, for no one deserves it more. It is a grand thing to do such magnificent work as the Aussies have done, but its very excellence has kept them continuously at it for a long time, and I fear they have paid very dearly in casualties.

I will always be glad to have news of the old Battalion. . . . With kindest regards to the old boys who remember me. I am, Your affectionate Old Padre,

PERCY BLADEN.

21st October.

This space is reserved for you to write in. Do it now.



YPRES — BROODSEINDE

Vol. 1.—No. 2.

1st NOVEMBER, 1918.

Price, Ten Centimes.

NICE.

How hard it seemed to realise that one stood not amid the wreck of villages or on shell-torn battlefields, but in that beautiful city beneath a sky of cloudless blue: that one listened no more to the shriek of shells and the hiss of bullets, but to the whisper of the Mediterranean laving that pebbly shore; that one breathed no longer the gas laden air of the forward zone but the bracing sea breeze or the scented zephyrs from the encircling hills.

How that wonderful promenade along the sea front gleamed in the sunlight, its brightness broken here and there by the gay colors of the thronging holiday-makers. And, as he rejoiced in the life and brightness of it all, one's gaze wandered here and there as he listened to the passers by, and forgot that he was still in a land at war. On through the wide streets of the white-walled, red-roofed city with its pleasant gardens and graceful avenues: up over terrace upon terrace, where the autumn tints of the vineyards blended in a glorious glow of color, contrasting sharply with the sombre grey-green of the olive groves. Upward still where the green of bracken

fern and the grey of outcropping rock mingled in one harmonious color scheme, and where the air was filled with the music of falling waters: and higher yet towards those giant peaks standing like sentinels beneath their mantle of eternal snow!

What a picture,—and what a setting! But the days passed like shadows, and Nice with its brightness, its beauty and its charm had become, and will forever remain, a delightful memory.—H.C.H.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS.

Some few months since we published a short poem with the above title, written by Col. John McCrae, of the A.M.C., who was killed while doing his duty in 1917. It may interest those of ours who have not already done so to read a very spirited reply by a comrade who is still in the fighting line:—

"Fear not that ye have died for naught,  
The torch you flung to us we caught  
Ten million hands will hold it high,  
And Freedom's cause will never die;  
We learnt the lesson that ye taught  
In Flanders fields."

—Frederick Milner.

APPENDIX 13



## FOR VALOR.

Following is another list of honors to be added to the Battalion's record:

Bar to M.C.—Lieut. F. J. Jenkins.

M.C.—Capt. W. A. Martin; Lieuts. H. C. Holland, L. G. Short, L. G. Addison, W. R. Finlayson.

D.C.M.—Sgts. G. Warren, T. A. Dykes, J. A. McClure.

M.M.s—Sgts G. Stewart, D. McDonald, A. Brown; C.S.M. A. Bertrich; Cpl D. Gorrie; L.-Cpls H. Yeomans, J. H. Morton, H. C. Green; Ptes. J. Pearce, A. Langley, M. J. Martin, C. A. Young, T. Delahunty, R. Comb, G. Vanevery, H. T. Hodson, J. Mackie, A. F. Brakey, F. V. Matthews, R. McIntyre, J. Lacey.

## PROMOTIONS.

To be Lieuts.—2nd Lieuts. P. J. Smith, D.S.O., W. D. Campbell, F. S. Kent, F. Holdsworth,

To be C.S.M.—W. P. Cameron

To be C.Q.M.S.—A. W. Law

To be Sgt.—F. L. Protheroe

To be T.-Sgts.—J. H. Sharpe, H. A. Harris, A. Ellem.

To be Cpls.—E. D. Pridgeon, S. G. Morna, E. Hanbury, J. Summerfield, A. Buckingham, E. C. Leopold.

To be T-Cpls.—H. Harrop, W. Gray, B. Godfrey, M. Fuller.

To be L-Cpls. F. Lyon, G. Secombe, P. Luker, E. James, D. R. James, W. H. Hitchcock, H. C. Pearce.

Sgt. Protheroe is the proud possessor of a medal won during his course at the Musketry School. That's the spirit!

"Digger" suggests that a court-martial is like two-up, because the "heads" always win.

## A WESTERN TRIBUTE.

From W.A. comes the following tribute to our Battalion paper. Captain Farrell's brother writes: "I consider it a very nicely compiled and neatly designed booklet and well worth preserving as a souvenir. Probably the copy we received is the only one that has reached W.A. I have already shown it to several of my friends and have promised others the loan of it. So although the 23rd is not of W.A. origin, you will be pretty well advertised and a warm welcome awaits you if ever you come this way."

## AN OFFICERS' HOLIDAY RESORT.

Captain Farrell, who returned lately from a month's leave spent the time at Stencourt in Wales. Col. and Mrs. Currie, who are the owners of this estate have given the use of their magnificent home for overseas officers. One hundred spent leave there last year. All sorts of sport is provided in the way of hunting, shooting, etc. Lady Harrowby, with her army of lady workers, makes all arrangements.

## LATE FOOTBALL.

The results of the two matches played by the Battalion on the eve of publication are as follows:—

## AUSTRALIAN GAME.

23rd v 6th Brigade.—4 goals, 14 behinds to 2 goals, 1 behind.

## SOCCER.

In the 23rd v. 24th match a win was notched by the latter with 2 goals to nil.

## FOOTBALL.

This popular branch of sport has become quite part of the Battalion routine, and a thoroughly organised plan of campaign has been drawn up. Practice has been regular and thorough, a committee of management formed (Lieut. J. Phillips, capt., Cpl. B. Godfrey, vice-capt., Lieut. Kirkwood), trainers appointed (Clancy, A Coy., Vanevery, C Coy., Hanslow, D Coy., Forrest, H.Qrs., and Cpl. Johnson in charge), and all the details necessary for the carrying out of a successful series of matches attended to. Our own national game of course takes preference, but soccer finds many supporters, and with Lieut. Maddrell at the head of a strong combination it is quite possible the Battalion will reach the two objectives (silver cups) at the end of the final round. Below will be found results of the matches played. A list will be compiled showing position of each Coy. and published in next and following issues till completion of competition.

## Matches Played.

D Coy., 17gls 17bds	beat	C Coy.,	4.5	
B	11	17	H.Q.	5.6
D	7	15	A	6.9
B	15	11	C	3.4
D	8	8	H.Q.	3.11
A	15	7	C	5.8
D	5	11	B	5.5
H.Q.	7	14	A	4.7

Two more matches to complete first round.

## Inter-Battalion.

23rd met the 4th Pioneers and won by 6 goals. 11 to 5. Behinds napoo.

The old firm knocked spots off the 22nd. The red and purple collapsed much as Austria and Turkey in the final flutter. Casualties: 23rd, 15.13; 22nd, 3.6.

## SOCCER.

The 23rd Battalion Soccer team, which opened its season at Cappy with a couple of wins over the 22nd Battalion, recently played two matches with the neighboring Tank Battalions.

The first, played on the ground of their opponents, resulted in a win for the Bat. by two goals to 1. The finish came with the Tanks striving hard to equalise. On the whole it was an enjoyable game, witnessed by a crowd of approximately 300.

The return match, played on the home ground in fine weather on the 26th Oct., was the visitors' game all the way. They had hard luck in not increasing their lead of 1 goal before time. Lt. Maddrell at right back played a magnificent game, and was the best of our side.

The visitors were afterwards entertained at a hot tea arranged by secretary, L.cpl. Holmes, who, ably assisted by L.cpl. McCourt and Pte Blackwood, saw that all had a good time. Later the Y.M.C.A. generously reserved seats for the party, and all enjoyed a good concert programme by battalion talent.

Up to date no competition matches have been played, but the team hope to bring the trophy home.

The following form the committee of management: Lieut. Maddrell (Capt.), Ptes Blackwood, Schilling, and McKenzie. L.cpl. W. Holmes, secretary.

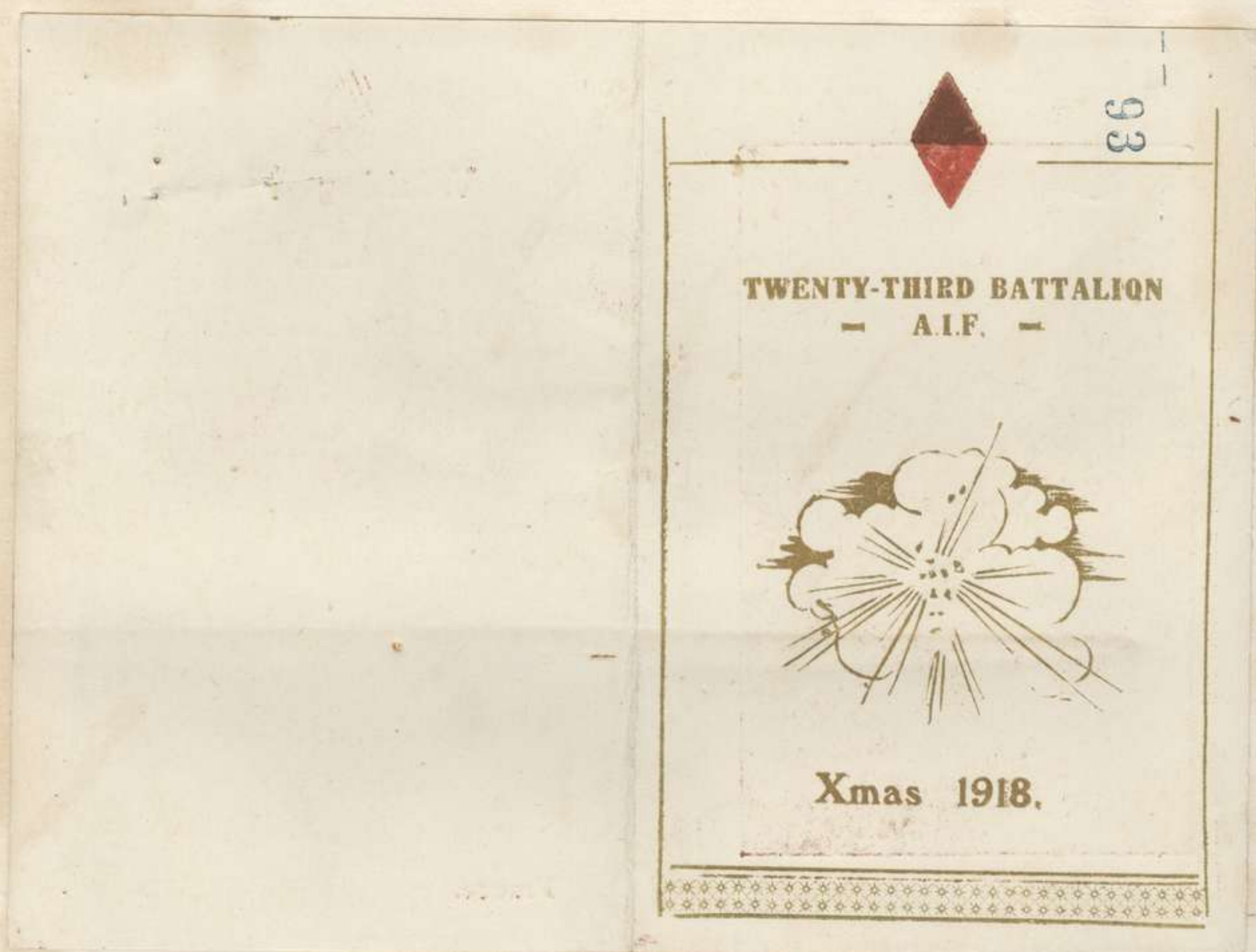
## HOCKEY.

The following are the results in the first round of the inter-company Hockey Competition:

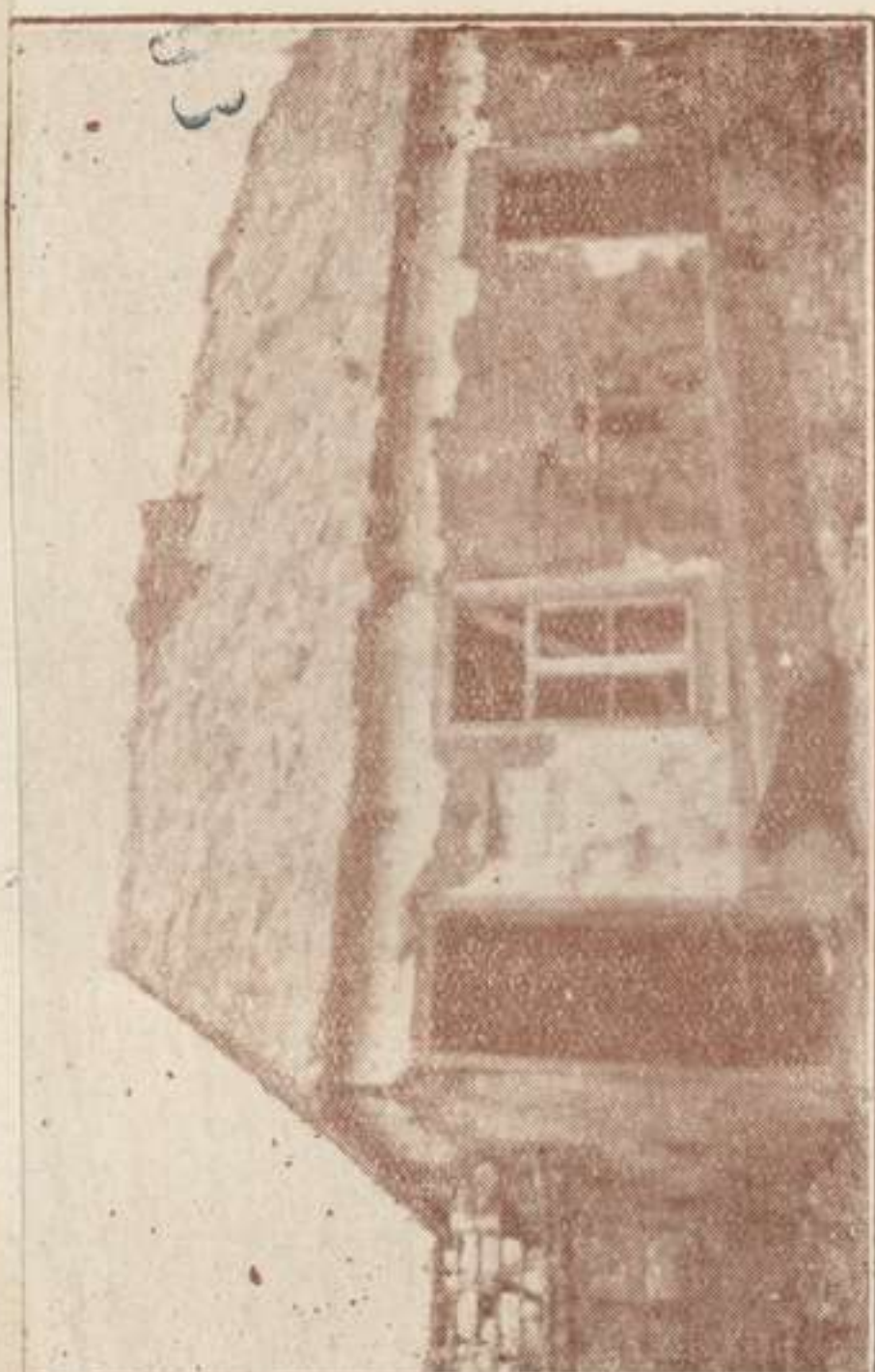
C Coy.,	3 goals,	beat	B Coy.,	1 goal
D	7 goals,	beat	A	3 goals
C	11 goals,	beat	A	1 goal
B	4 goals,	beat	D	2 goals
C	4 goals,	beat	D	-- goals
B	5 goals,	beat	A	2 goals



APPENDIX 14







Peasant's Home, France.

Wishing You  
the  
Compliments  
of the  
...Season...



From

France.



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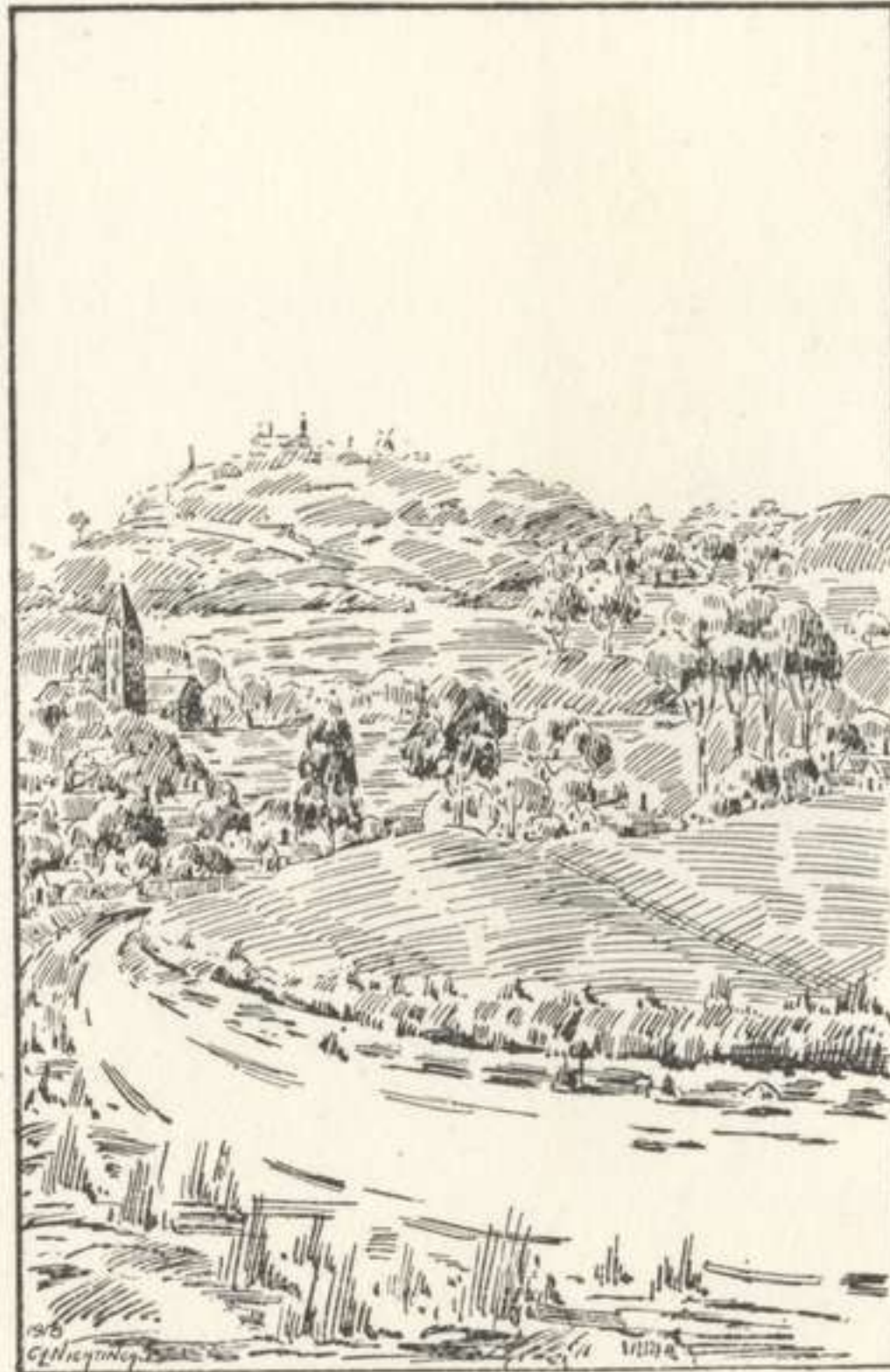
APPENDIX

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Mont de Cats, FRANCE



Eastern Park, Geelong, AUSTRALIA



APPENDIX

14