

Extracts from Annual Inspection Report, 28th May, 1947

DRILL

Drill and steadiness on parade very good.

TACTICAL TRAINING

Great keenness all round was shown. The standard of leadership shown by Cadet N.C.O.s was first class. Organisation was sound. Control and discipline were very good, and there was keen competition displayed. Advanced handling, field-craft and map-reading was soundly taught, and reached a high standard. March discipline very good.

TECHNICAL TRAINING

The Signal Section training was carried out by Cadet N.C.O.s and the Signal Section appear very efficient and keen.

Internal Combustion Engine. The training was carried out in the School workshops and the students were extremely keen.

DISCIPLINE

A very high standard.

TURN OUT

The turn out was smart.

Shooting

There has been a gratifying improvement in the general standard of shooting in the School this term. This has been due in some measure to the new American Mossberg .22 rifles received last term, but good weather and better opportunities for practice have also played their part.

For the first time since 1939 members of the J.T.C. were able to have .303 practice at Yelden Range on May 20th and June 3rd. On both occasions we were conveyed by "troop-carrying" vehicles to and from Yelden; leaving the School before lunch and arriving back by 6.0 p.m. Both outings were successful and some excellent scores were recorded with the new aperture-backsight Service rifles. After every one had fired from the 100 and 200 yard points, those with the best scores were allowed to fire the Bren. On the second outing this could not be repeated as there was no time.

The Shooting Eight has been improving steadily with practice, and show promise for the future. Three matches have been fired. The first, against the local Army Cadet Force team, held on the School Miniature Range, was won easily. Major Benn has presented a Challenge Cup for competition between the two teams, and it is hoped that this will become an annual match.

The second fixture was a postal match against St. Albans School, which was lost. Unfortunately the School had to enter a scratch team for this match, as many members of the eight were not available.

The real triumph of the season was the School's success in the "General Ozanne" Challenge Shield for School and Cadet Force contingents in East Anglia. In the preliminary shoot of this competition

the School team were only nine points off the highest possible score, and so qualified for the finals at Colchester on Sunday, July 13th. Despite the nervous ordeal of shooting before a gallery of spectators, and the general tension on the range, they succeeded in winning by an appreciable margin. Scores were: Bedford, 427 points, 1st; Cambridge and County High School, 419 points, 2nd; Stowe, 412 points, 3rd; Brentwood, 399 points, 4th. Highest possible score was 440 points.

In the tie for the individual prizes, Cadet Ensor (Bedford) came first, and Cadet George (Bedford), second. Cadet Ensor is to be congratulated on his brilliant shooting all through this competition. In both preliminary and final rounds he obtained the highest possible score; and in the individual competition tie, with a smaller "bull," smaller target, and no rest, he hit the "bull" with all three shots.

Only one member of the team will have left by next year, so it is hoped that we will repeat this performance.

We again record our sincere thanks to C.S.M. Pittard, to whom the real credit for these results is due.

D.I.C.

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Erratum

In the last issue of the *Ousel*, Cadet A Young was omitted from the list of those who had gained their Marksman's Badge.

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Rules for House Shooting Competition

1. Scores by all Cadets in Empire Test for Seniors and in Recruits Test for Juniors, will be recorded for the year ending at the end of the Easter Term, and the average score per Cadet will decide the position of each House in a Qualifying Order to be announced at the beginning of the Summer Term.

2. A House Shooting Match will be fired during the Summer Term. The House that is first in the Qualifying Order may enter a team of eight; the House that is second may enter a team of seven; the third a team of six; the fourth a team of five; and the fifth and sixth Houses teams of four. The best four scores of each team will count in the aggregate scores of the House.

In the event of a tie for any place in the Qualifying Order, the Houses tying may enter teams of the number appropriate to that place.

3. The House Shooting Match will consist of 5 rounds grouping, 10 rounds rapid and 5 rounds snap, under "Country Life" conditions.

It will be fired by arrangement with the C.S.M.I. during the Summer Term, so as not to interfere with the claims of major sports.

4. The House Shooting Cups will be awarded on the results of the House Shooting Matches.

"Make-Do and Mend"

The other day, on a very hot afternoon, mechanics arrived at the School to fix new radiators in certain classrooms, and this reminded me vividly of a freezing Monday morning in the Easter Term, when the temperature was so much below zero that the