Major J. G. McNaught, R.A.M.C. ([Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps, vol. 21, p. 136 (1913)]) quotes from MM. Lemoine, and Decaux, that Ephestia elutella Hb., Plodia interpunctella Hb., and Pyralis farinalis L. “only frequent the cases of biscuits from the end of May to the beginning of September; hence the indication to pack the biscuits only in the intervening period of the year.” A similar suggestion was fully discussed during this Enquiry, at Woolwich, in November, 1911. Apart from the possibility of placing contracts at any specified date, or dates, a reference to this Journal, vol. 20, p. 627, will demonstrate that, so far as Ephestia kühniella is concerned, such immunity can hardly be hoped for during the winter months, since moths are recorded as emerging in September, October, and November, and they continue to emerge plentifully in December, January, &c.; in fact, the species seems to be normally an autumnal insect.

Lecture.

THE MOBILIZATION AND FORMATION OF MEDICAL UNITS.1

By Captain and Quartermaster G. F. Short.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

I propose to put before you the following points:

1. The system in force by which provision is made during “Peace” for clothing and equipping Reserve members of the R.A.M.C. in readiness for mobilization.

2. Obtaining, storing and preserving, marking, accounting for, inspecting, the turnover and final disposal of the articles so stored.

I select the foregoing headings from my belief that officers of the Corps, with the exception of officers commanding the Headquarters of companies where reservists rejoin, and quartermasters, are less conversant with them than with any other part of mobilization duties. The two officers named become intimately associated with the work during Peace time, in the course of their ordinary routine duty; whereas other officers are simply called upon from time to time to act as members of “Boards” on supplies received, or Stocktaking Boards, and as these duties deal with quantity and quality only, they afford little opportunity of learning anything beyond that.

It may perhaps be considered that an intimate knowledge of these

1 Lecture delivered to the Officers, Royal Army Medical Corps, Belfast District.

Mobilization regulations are now being revised, and some of the procedure described is obsolete. (Ed.).
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particular duties is not essential for medical officers, but I can only quote my experience of the early part of the late Boer War, when on arriving at the Curragh to take up the duties of a quartermaster, who had been sent out to South Africa three months previously, I found that no less than four medical officers had been acting as quartermaster, the one relieved by me being a lieutenant-colonel. I did not find either the stores, ledgers, or vouchers quite as up to date as they should have been.

Regular Reservists.

To begin with, we have three distinct classes of regular reservists who join on mobilization being ordered:—

(1) R.A.M.C.: N.C.Os. and men who have been relegated to the Reserve from the Royal Army Medical Corps.

(2) Royal Garrison Artillery, and Infantry: Army Reservists transferred to the Reserve of the R.A.M.C. under Army Orders 3 and 93 of 1909, and 37 of 1911, who train with the Special Reserve. These, I may mention, receive a preliminary training of three months and subsequent trainings of eight days on alternate years.

The procedure adopted on the transfer of N.C.Os. and men of the R.A.M.C. to the Reserve is as follows: The correct measurement of each is taken, entered on Army Form B. 2056, and forwarded to the officer in charge of R.A.M.C. Records.

For the R.G.A. and infantry these measurements are obtained from the Record Offices concerned.

Corps Form 19 is furnished by the officer in charge of records to officers commanding headquarters of companies where men rejoin for the purpose of being clothed and equipped, and, as will be seen by examining this form, it contains all necessary information in respect to the measurements of the men.

The kit to be issued to each man on mobilization is pigeon-holed separately, with the exception of great-coats, trousers, and service dress jackets, which are baled in a store specially set aside for the purpose.

As casualties occur among the men, Corps Form 19 is sent out by the officer in charge of records to various commanding officers apprising them of the names, measurements, &c., of men added to the establishment, to replace others who have become non-effective.

On receipt of this document the stored kits (great-coats, trousers, and jackets excepted) of any men struck off the strength are removed from their pigeon-holes, and the kits of others who have been added to the list are completed as far as possible from them. Army Book 250 is brought up to date, and Army Form H. 1117, showing the name of the man and the size of the articles stored, is prepared.

It follows that the new sizes of garments, &c., required often differ from those in the kits about to be broken up. In such cases the following procedure is adopted:—
Army Form H. 1173 for the additional articles required is prepared by sections, in triplicate, and submitted to the Chief Ordnance Officer every quarter, except when any abnormal increase occurs in the number of men, when intermediate demands may be put forward. To this requisition is attached a statement showing the sizes of articles in store not required and available for disposal to other units or return to Ordnance Stores.

On receipt of the new articles the kits are completed and under the authority of the C.O.O. the surplus articles are disposed of by voucher.

With regard to the great-coats, trousers and jackets, a little more difficulty is experienced and expense to the State involved, as these articles, being baled by machinery in tens, remain so under ordinary circumstances for periods of three years.

For the purpose of illustrating how an exchange of size is effected in these items, let me state a possible case: During the quarter one man only had been added to and one deducted from the strength. John Adams took a size 3 great-coat, 14 trousers, and 12 jacket, baled in three distinct packages. He is replaced by Peter Robinson size 6 great-coat, 22 trousers, and 22 jacket. As complete bales only are to be handled, three containing thirty articles, twenty-seven of which are still required, must be returned to the Ordnance Stores in order that the garments not required may be removed and five garments of suitable size added. They are then re-baled and returned. It thus follows that railway charges would be paid upon twenty-seven garments to and from Dublin, which if stored loosely need not have been removed from the store. It may happen, however, that the C.O.O. would direct the contents of original bales to be disposed of to other units requiring the articles either here, at Holywood or some other near station. Even then, thirty others would be required from Ordnance Stores to replace them. And all this trouble and expense is occasioned by two men.

There is much to be said in favour of baling these goods. The articles are easily handled and quickly checked. The amount of labour is reduced. The possibility of invasion by moth is precluded, a matter of the greatest importance where large quantities of woollen goods are stored, with a very limited working staff, as in the Royal Army Medical Corps; they are also readily got rid of when they have been stored the prescribed period without fear of questions arising as to their condition. The amount of storage accommodation is also reduced.

Special Articles.

Brassards, field dressings, clasp knives and lanyards supplied for "active service," are stored with mobilization equipment for the authorized strength of each unit.

Articles for "special expeditions only" consisting of sea kit bags, helmets and pugarees, are stored at the clothing depot supplying the
district, and will not be supplied unless specially ordered by the War Office. They will be issued to units at places of mobilization.

SERVING SOLDIERS.

A word may not be out of place here anent the equipment, clothing, and necessaries to be taken by serving soldiers proceeding on active service. Such articles in possession of the soldier as form part of his active service kit, will be carefully inspected, and any article of clothing that is not in a perfectly serviceable condition and fit for three months further wear will be exchanged for new, or thoroughly serviceable articles.

Infantry reservists are re-measured on coming up for training, and the necessary adjustment made by the O.C., the Depot in the articles stored for them.

As the Royal Army Medical Corps reservists do not train, either annually or biennially, the sizes of clothing, &c., originally stored for them remain the same until they mobilize, when it is not to be wondered at if differences are found to exist, and difficulty experienced in fitting the men. This could, and should be remedied by directing individuals on their anniversary of transfer to the reserve, to fill in a form and return it to Officer in Charge of Records. By this means, or some similar method, can correct sizes be stored for the men.

Clothing and boots of abnormal size are not stored. On mobilization, indents and size rolls (on Army Form H. 1173) would be immediately submitted to the R.A.C.D. through the C.O.O. Boots of special size may be provided regimentally at the rate published in the Priced Vocabulary of Clothing and Necessaries.

STORING AND PRESERVING.

We now come to the manner of storing the various kits. Each kit, as I have mentioned before, is kept in a separate pigeon-hole, with the exception of great-coats, trousers, and jackets, and is easily accessible at all times for purposes of checking, airing, and turning over. Affixed to each pigeon-hole is a tin frame containing Army Forms G. 1090 and H. 1117,1 and showing all articles of equipment, clothing, and necessaries comprised in the kit. All the articles except the service dress cap, boots, mess tin and cutlery are contained in the kit bag, which is placed cross-wise in the pigeon-hole. The cap (in paper) lies on the top of the bag; one pair of boots with laces, is placed on either side of the pigeon-hole, the mess-tin in the centre between the boots, with the cutlery wrapped in waterproof paper on the top.

This arrangement may be found to vary slightly in different stores,

1 Army Forms G. 1090 and H. 1117 are being combined in one.
the details being left to the discretion of the Officers Commanding concerned.

With respect to the boots, I have found it to be a good plan to place them with their soles facing you, on which I chalk the date of manufacture. Their age can then be seen at a glance, and the necessity of wading through hundreds of pairs when effecting a turnover of those which have been longest in stock is obviated. Boots should be greased with either animal oil, or dubbing about once every six months.

Knives, forks, razors, and mess-tins, must be wiped occasionally with an oily rag. Naphthaline should be placed among the loose articles in kit bags, and their contents should be frequently removed from the bags and aired.

MARKING OF ARTICLES.

The only article marked during peace is the identity disc, the remainder being marked when men report on mobilization being ordered.

Here let me please give my views on this subject: You will all admit, I opine, that since mobilization is the act of putting into a state of readiness for active service a given number of men, that this should be done with the utmost rapidity, and yet here we find at the very outset the greatest hindrance to the carrying out of this idea, by having to mark every article of kit issued from store to each individual.

As I do not think that anyone here fully realizes what the marking of 115 kits on charge at this station would mean, let me give you a few astonishing figures: In each kit there are 53 articles, including equipment, which require to be marked as follows: On ten, consisting of leather, wood, or metal, 40 letters and 34 figures require punching. On 40 woollen, leather, and other goods 160 letters and 156 figures require stamping either in paint or marking ink, and on 3, 12 letters and 12 figures require burning. This for 115 kits gives a total of 4,600 letters and 3,910 figures to be punched, 18,400 letters and 17,940 figures to be stamped, and 1,380 letters and 1,380 figures to be burned, making a grand total of 47,610 letters and figures to be either punched, stamped, or burned, upon the articles before the men can be disposed of by the quartermaster.

I have personally tested the length of time required to mark one kit, the work being carried out by an expert marker who is familiar with the use of the various tools, and found that the time occupied is 17 minutes; multiply this by 115 and you have at least 34\(\frac{1}{2}\) hours lost, I might say wasted, on this work alone, with the probability of the time being considerably added to, as the present marker, being required to join his unit, would be replaced by a stranger, unfamiliar with the work.

I daresay that the original intention of marking the soldier's kit was two-fold, first to enable the articles to be traced when sold or stolen,
and secondly, as a means of identification of the wearer on the field in case of any casualty befalling him.

As each soldier now wears an identity disc on going into the field the latter reason is no longer apparent, and although I grant you that years ago it was by no means uncommon for men to be charged with making away with portions of their kit, or appropriating the kits of others, it is seldom we hear of such cases now. But even this should not be advanced as a reason for marking the articles, for if the man mobilizes to-day, and disposes of any portion of his kit on the first day he takes the field, the deficiency is met by an issue of unmarked articles, as marking tools do not form part of the equipment of a unit in the field. If then he can be trusted in the field with an unmarked kit why should it not be so issued to him in the first place.1

If this matter is seriously considered and the marking dispensed with, units would be rendered fit to take the field days earlier than they now do, and I do not think that the fighting efficiency of the soldier would be affected thereby.

ACCOUNTING.

I have pointed out to you the system by which articles are demanded from the Army Ordnance Department, and I may say that such demands are always promptly met.

Vouchers in duplicate are received with each consignment; the articles are “boarded” and if found correct, one voucher is signed and returned, and the other filed in its order of sequence to support the entries in Army Book 285, Clothing ledger under Section VI (Receipts).

Any issues which take place from the store are accounted for in the same section under “Issues,” and are supported by Army Form G 1033, signed by the receiving officer.

The ledger is balanced for comparison by a board of officers with the stock remaining in store on September 30, and may be balanced on change of command, or change of quartermasters, and whenever the commanding officer considers it desirable to have the stock verified by a Board of Survey, the reports of such boards being duly recorded on Army Form H 1164, and in Army Book 106.

INSPECTING.

All Mobilization Clothing, Necessaries, and Equipment are inspected every six months alternately by:

(1) The Assistant Director of Ordnance Stores.
(2) The Chief Ordnance Officer. The result being reported to the headquarters of the command on Army Form G 1097.

1 While it is desirable that marking should be carried out as far as possible, revised regulations are making it clear that mobilization is not to be delayed on this account.
(3) By commanding officers as often as considered necessary by them.
(4) By the quartermaster in charge daily.

In addition there is the annual stocktaking board held when the ledger is forwarded to the Chief Accountant for examination, and boards of survey when necessary.

**Turnover.**

As a rapid turnover of mobilization clothing and necessaries must be always maintained, this will be done within the following periods if possible:

(a) Caps and all woollen articles not stored in bales, one year.
(b) Baled goods and all other articles not included under (a) and (c) three years.
(c) Combs and metal articles, five years.

These periods should be taken as a limit, but it is not necessary to postpone any turnover until the periods have elapsed, advantage being taken of turning over as opportunities occur from ordinary supplies required by the unit, or by other units attached.

On December 31 each year a manuscript return is forwarded by the officer in charge of mobilization, clothing, &c., to the C.O.O. showing the items of which no turnover has been effected within the above periods, and of which there is no reasonable prospect of securing a turnover within the following year.

On receipt of this return the C.O.O. will arrange for other units within the command to assist in the turnover, or authorize replacement in bulk from the clothing depot supplying the district.

Complete bales only, as I mentioned earlier in my lecture, will be utilized for turnover of such articles as are stored in bales, and no articles of mobilization clothing, necessaries, or equipment must ever be utilized for ordinary issue until first replaced by similar articles.

**Final Disposal of Articles in Store on Issue to N.C.Os. and Men on Mobilization.**

Equipment, clothing and necessaries in accordance with Army Forms G 1090 and H 1117 which are to be found hanging on each pigeon-hole, will be issued to men who pass the preliminary medical examination. These forms will be signed by each reservist as receipts, and the articles will be struck off charge in bulk after issue.

When clothed and equipped the men are dispatched in batches to their various units, accompanied by nominal rolls, recording the fact that each man has received a complete set of personal equipment, clothing.

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1 The signature of the reservist on the new form combining Army Forms G 1090 and H 1117 is about to be abolished.
and necessaries as shown on Army Forms G 1090 and H 1117, Army Forms H 1150 for public clothing and G 1033 for equipment in duplicate being passed to the officer commanding the unit to which the men are posted. One copy of each will be signed and returned to support the “strike off” in the Ledger.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT (ACCOUTREMENTS).

There is no time limit laid down for the turnover of accoutrements held on mobilization charge, this being dependent upon the introduction of new patterns, or changes in existing patterns from time to time, by means of War Office letters and Lists of Changes published monthly, all necessary information is circulated for the benefit of officers who may have mobilization equipment on charge.

The principle is that the latest patterns are always allotted to mobilization equipment, while the older patterns are being worn out by the troops.

Army Book 333 has been introduced not only to record the routine turnover of the mobilization stores, with others of the same pattern in peace equipment, but also to form a record of the action taken to obtain later patterns of any stores concerning which information has been published in W.O. letters or in Lists of Changes. In case of doubt as to whether the equipment is affected, reference should be immediately made to C.O.O. of the area.

It is of particular importance to watch for later patterns of stores and the component parts. Items affected should be exchanged for those of later patterns whenever possible without waiting for the future exchange of the whole article, of which the stores mentioned in the List of Changes may be a part. Thus the buckles of a belt may be obtained without exchanging the whole belt.

Army Book 333 is sent to the C.O.O. of the area on April 1, July 1, October 1 and January 1, and he will arrange for the turnover of such later patterns as are received from time to time. Indents will not be required.

Army Form G 919 is furnished on the first of each month upon which all articles due on account of change in pattern, &c., are shown month by month until finally supplied.

Half-yearly, Army Form G 1080 reporting all deficiencies in mobilization equipment is furnished to the C.O.O.

Mobilization equipment is accounted for in Army Book 239 which will be balanced annually on March 31 and forwarded to local auditor.

SPECIAL RESERVISTS, CATEGORY (A).

Certain new articles for issue on mobilization are stored at places of rejoining for each Special Reservist, Category (A). The additional articles required on mobilization to complete the men to scale will be
taken from the new or part-worn kits kept for issue during the annual training.

The new articles are all stored in bulk (with the exception of greatcoats, trousers, and jackets which are baled), differing in this respect from the regular reservist's which are pigeon-holed. Army Forms G 1090 and H 1117 are prepared for each man.

New accoutrements of similar pattern and on the same scale as those issued to regular reservists are stored for these men.

All stored articles are obtained, marked, accounted for, inspected, turned over and finally disposed of under the same conditions as those for regular reservists.

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**Report.**

REPORT ON THE MANŒUVRES OF THE 4TH DIVISION BEARER BATTALION, HELD AT OSADANO, AMADAGUN, KIOTOFU, FROM AUGUST 14 TO 17, 1912.

By Captain A. A. MacNeight.

Indian Medical Service.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

The manoeuvres were held on the military manoeuvre ground situated to the north of the village of Osadano. This ground covers an area of about three square miles of irregular country, including open plain, woods, small hills and valleys, and is intersected by three good roads and numerous rough tracks.

The troops employed were the following: One infantry battalion, two cavalry troops, one bearer battalion. They were housed in military huts situated on the outskirts of Osadano.

The Directing Staff included the Principal Medical Officer of the 4th Division, a lieutenant-colonel of infantry, a major of the transport corps, two principal surgeons, and a principal apothecary.

Medical officers, including some reserve officers, from the different stations in the division attended the manoeuvres for one or two days each, for instructional purposes. A class of men, undergoing a course of instruction, preparatory to entering the medical service, at the Osaka Garrison Hospital, also attended for two days for the same purpose.

Visits of inspection were paid by the Commander and Chief of the Staff of the 4th Division. Similar manoeuvres are held in each division during July or August of every year.

The N.C.Os. and men of the bearer battalion had been called out for